

Amir will visit Iraq

KUWAIT, Sept. 10. (Reuters): HH the Amir of Kuwait will visit Iraq late this month for the first time since he came to the throne in 1977, two Kuwaiti newspapers said today.

Al Watan and Al Qabas said the Amir had been invited by President Saddam Hussein. They gave no details of the visit and there was no official confirmation.

Truce offer if Lanka agrees

COLOMBO, Sept. 10. (Agencies): India has promised to order a ceasefire if Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa accepts its proposal for the withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping soldiers, a senior official said today.

Also today, military officials said they feared at least 150 Tamil civilians may have died since Friday in the latest Indian military offensive against Tamil rebels in northeastern Sri Lanka. An Indian official denied the charge.

A government communiqué, meanwhile, reported nine people were killed today in continuing ethnic violence.

India, seeking to end a diplomatic stalemate over its peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka, announced last week a new proposal for withdrawing the 42,000 soldiers that had been sent to Premadasa for approval.

Details of the proposal, worked out last week during the non-aligned summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, were not disclosed.

A senior Sri Lankan government official said on condition of not being identified yesterday that India agreed to pull its troops out of Sri Lanka by Dec. 31, two months earlier than previously offered.

Another government official, also speaking on condition of not being identified, said today that India also promised to order its troops to halt all military operations against the Tamils once the proposal was accepted. The rebels would be asked to observe the ceasefire, he said.

The official said the cabinet, which will discuss the proposal on Wednesday, probably would accept the Dec. 31 deadline but would ask India to provide a more detailed pullout timetable.

In New Delhi, a Foreign Ministry spokesman declined comment.

In Madras, India, Tamil Tigers rebels told an Indian-backed council governing Tamil areas of Sri Lanka today to resign by Oct. 1 or be treated as enemies.

Ortega due

KUWAIT, Sept. 10. (Agencies): Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega will tour a number of Arab countries including Kuwait, well placed sources told a Kuwaiti daily.

Quoting the sources, the paper said Ortega is keen on visiting the region and establishing strong relations with the countries of this area. But the sources would not say when Ortega would visit the region.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Minister was quoted today as saying his country would open an embassy in Abu Dhabi in the coming months.

"Our country looks forward to establishing good and close relations with all Arab countries especially in the Gulf, and Nicaragua will open an embassy in Abu Dhabi in the next few months," the local daily also reported quoting Miguel D'Escoto as saying in Belgrade.

Mother Teresa 'feeling brighter' but remains in ICU

CALCUTTA, Sept. 10. (UPI): Mother Teresa's heart is now beating at a regular pulse without the aid of a pacemaker and the 79-year-old Nobel laureate is "bright and cheerful" but remains in intensive care, her doctor said today.

The Roman Catholic nun of world-wide renown for her charity work was placed in Calcutta's Woodlands Nursing Home last Tuesday when she began experiencing an erratic pulse and related problems of fever and nausea.

Fierce assault on besieged enclave

Riyadh conditions mediation

BEIRUT, Sept. 10. (Agencies): Syrians and their allies attacked three major gateways into the besieged Christian enclave north of Beirut today.

Police said three people were killed and 14 wounded in overnight artillery duels and daytime gunbattles across the museum crossing on Beirut's dividing Green Line as well as the mountain-top towns of Souk El Gharb and Ein El Tuffaha.

That raised the casualty toll since the current round of Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war erupted March 8 to at least 836 killed and 2,488 wounded.

Police said Syrian guns opened up before dawn on ships trying to run a six-month blockade of the Christian enclave, apparently suspecting the vessels were carrying arms and supplies from Iraq. Aoun's main backer.

Aoun's gunners responded with 155mm Howitzer barrages against Syrian artillery batteries along the seashore Ein Mreisseh boulevard in West Beirut.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal Al Saud said today the Arab committee on Lebanon could resume its peace efforts only with the co-operation of the warring sides.

The Arab League gave the

Israelis kill 5

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 10. (UPI): Five Palestinians were killed today during one of the bloodiest days this year in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinian and military sources said.

Three West Bank Palestinians were killed by army gunfire, a suspected collaborator was stabbed to death, and a Gaza Strip teenager was shot to death by Israeli civilians escorting a gasoline delivery truck, the sources said.

In addition, soldiers shot and wounded at least 14 Arabs, including a 16-month-old girl, while residents of Nablus, the largest West Bank city, said dozens of people were beaten, the Palestinian sources said.

Earlier report Page 7

Mohamed Moada has been elected the new secretary-general of the main Tunisian opposition party, MDS. (Reuter wirephoto)

Merbah protests Benjedid sacking

'Unconstitutional'

ALGIERS, Sept. 10. (Reuters): Algerian Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah stepped down under protest today, dismissed by President Chadli Benjedid apparently for failing to speed the pace of reform.

A source close to Merbah, who initially refused to resign when ordered to do so yesterday, said the former prime minister had agreed to leave office but still contested the constitutionality of his dismissal.

Benjedid replaced Merbah with a key presidential adviser and reformist ally in his ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), Mouloud Hamrouche, formerly chief of presidential staff.

Political observers linked the move to Benjedid's frustration at the slow implementation of sweeping political and economic reforms he launched after youth riots swept the country last October.

The state-run Algerian news agency APS today lashed out at Merbah, who said yesterday the President did not have the constitutional power to fire him without National Assembly backing.

In refusing to conform to the constitutional decision of the President, putting an end to his functions, is Kasdi Merbah trying to make himself an alternative to the supreme magistrate? an APS commentary asked.

It said the constitution gave the President clear powers to name and fire prime ministers, an interpretation shared by an independent jurist contacted by Reuters.

Diplomats said it remained unclear how much support Merbah could rally within the FLN, which holds an extraordinary Congress next month expected to see a showdown between conservatives and party reformists led by Benjedid.

The official said the cabinet, which will discuss the proposal on Wednesday, probably would accept the Dec. 31 deadline but would ask India to provide a more detailed pullout timetable.

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The Roman Catholic nun of world-wide renown for her charity work was placed in Calcutta's Woodlands Nursing Home last Tuesday when she began experiencing an erratic pulse and related problems of fever and nausea.

There has been no rise in her temperature and her heartbeat is regular, even without the use of the pacemaker, Dr. Ashim Bardhan, the leader of the medical team tending the nun, said late today.

"She has remained bright and cheerful and eaten with a good appetite, and had a comfort-



Who killed my husband?

Yusef Mohamed Milheim, an appointed Palestinian secretary of a municipal council, was slain by masked gunmen near his home in Kaikilya. Yusuf's

wife and a relative grieve his death. (Reuter wirephoto)

(See page 7)

Civil ID queries computerised

A 'bit' less of a 'byte'

KUWAIT, Sept. 10. (Kuna): Director-general of the Public Authority for Civil Information Faisal Al Shaiji today said that the authority has introduced a new system, enabling the public to make any enquiries pertinent to the civil identity card by telephone.

Shaiji told a press conference that the new system, linked with the automatic telephone network, provides the caller with any relevant information concerning with his/her ID card or IDs of his/her family members, through computer and without any third party interference.

The official said the caller should use push-button telephone sets, provide the computer with his/her civil ID number and wait for the reply of the computer, which, he said, would be able to specify the place from where to collect the ID. If it is issued elsewhere, it would give the valid reasons, which may have hindered issuance of the card and advise the caller to contact one of the authority's office to give the required information before collecting

the card.

The director maintained that the service is the first of its kind in the Middle East and expressed optimism over expected results, which he went on, would lessen much at the counter. The system will enable any person in Kuwait to use the facility. One has to dial 2661000 to get an answer in Arabic and for reply in English, 2663000 should be dialled.

Plans are under study by the authority to introduce additional telephone services to reply on queries by other large communities residing in Kuwait, such as Urdu speakers, the official said.

Shaiji added that the authority is preparing to expand its auto-information service, indicating that new services, in this connection, would be introduced in due course to provide citizens and residents with more easier facilities.

(See Page 9)

34 years a castaway

Bahrain odyssey

BAHRAIN, Sept. 10. (Reuters): A Bahraini fisherman presumed dead after his boat sank 35 years ago has returned home.

Local newspapers today said Mubarak Al-Mas Salem flew home from Madagascar, where he had been finally persuaded the authorities after more than three decades that he was a Bahraini.

Salem's saga began when his sailing dhow sank in a storm en route to Oman in 1953. He was rescued by a French frigate bound for the then French colony of Madagascar.

But having lost his papers in the storm he was unable to convince anyone he was a Bahraini so languished stateless for over 30 years.



North Koreans defect

Three North Koreans defected to South Korea on Sunday by walking through a mine field and swimming across a border river to a South Korean military post, military authorities said.

The defectors, two North Korean Army officers and a civilian hospital nurse, crossed the border overnight, the Defence Ministry said. They reached a military post early on Sunday, the ministry said.

The three defectors were identified as 2nd Lt. Kim Nam Ho, a platoon commander of the North Korean Army's 8th division, master Sgt. Kim Kwang Choon and Im Jung Hee, a nurse in Kaesung, it said. (Reuter wirephoto)

Free to go

Bahrain odyssey

BUDAPEST, Sept. 10. (AP): Hungary announced today that thousands of East Germans who fled their communist homeland will be allowed to leave refugee camps for West Germany beginning at midnight (2200 GMT).

Hungary thus becomes the first east bloc government to help the citizens of another communist nation leave for the West.

"Interior Minister Istvan Horvath instructed the police and border guards to let East German citizens leave Hungary with their East German travel documents," it said. "The border guards are instructed to let them leave at any border point."

It said that would begin at midnight (2200 GMT). (See Page 4)

Say no more

ISTANBUL, Sept. 10. (Reuters): Turkey's first speakers' corner modelled on the one in London's Hyde Park to encourage freedom of speech survived only for a day.

Police confiscated the speakers' rostrum yesterday.

Bakirkoy district Mayor Yildirim Aktuna set up "the free speech corner" in a park he named "Freedom Square" on Friday.

They arrested the tribune and are probably torturing it now on the grounds that it has not confessed," the spokesman said.

Tehran Radio, quoted Parliament Speaker Mahdi Karbabi as saying that "US leaders will take the wish of overthrowing the Islamic republic to their graves."

Zia son smells cover-up

LONDON, Sept. 10, (UPI): Pakistan's government is guilty of a "great cover-up" in closing down the investigation of the 1988 plane crash that killed Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and 28 other people, Zia's son charged this week.

Ijaz-ul-Haq, 36, son of the late president of Pakistan, told reporters at a news conference he was making the charge to draw attention to what he believes is the attempt by the government of Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to quash the investigation into the Aug. 17, 1988, plane crash.

All 29 aboard the C-130 transport — including Zia-ul-Haq, US Ambassador Arnold Raphael and many of Pakistan's top military leaders — were killed when the aircraft exploded.

"A team of experts was appointed after the crash and was continuing its probe when the new government took over in Pakistan in December, 1988," Ijaz-ul-Haq said.

A report of that official inquiry released in October 1988 said the crash was probably the result of sabotage but that whoever was responsible remained unknown.

"One of the major decisions of the government, headed by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has been to ask the team of experts to consider the crash a closed issue," he said.

"However, notwithstanding the great cover-up, the people of Pakistan will continue to strive until the truth is established and the criminals responsible for the assassination of my father and Pakistan's top military brass have been identified and punished," he said.

94 states approve summit on children

RIYADH, Sept. 10, (AP): The United Nations Children's Fund, Unicef, has secured the approval of 94 states for a summit conference on child welfare, to be convened mid-1990, a Unicef official announced today.

According to the Unicef Gulf office in Riyadh, the summit would be convened at UN headquarters with the participation of heads of state, governments and foreign ministers.

The conference will mobilise practical efforts in child welfare, protection and development of chil-

Political test of strength

ISLAMABAD, Sept. 10. (Reuter): Pakistanis could be forgiven for thinking an election campaign was under way, given Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's current "battle of the rallies" with the opposition.

Her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and opposition leader

Desio, 93, visits base camp

Studying Everest

KATHMANDU, Nepal, Sept. 10, (AP): A 93-year-old Italian scientist, whose measurements reconfirmed Mount Everest as the world's tallest mountain, now is investigating how Everest's development has changed the Earth's crust in the area.

Professor Arturo Desio of the University of Milan launched the project today by paying a visit by helicopter to the team's base camp, at 5,000 metres (16,400 feet) on the 8,848-metre (29,028-foot) mountain. He spent some time in climbing activities in the region.

"The climb was fine. ... the altitude had no effect on my physique," Desio said.

In reply to a question, he said: "I have forgotten (the age), age is not a problem on the mountain."

Desio is leading a team of 38 scientists in research sponsored by the National Research Council of Italy.

"This time, we want to measure the deformation of Earth's surface of the Himalayan ranges both from Tibet and Nepal," Desio told the Associated Press today.

The \$1.3-million project will concentrate this fall along the southern slope of Everest, on the Nepalese side, Desio said. Next year, the scientist will go to Tibet, on the Chinese side.

In geological terms, the Himalayas are considered young mountains, whose height is still growing.

"We have to determine the present situation and possibly to detect the present movements," said Giorgio Poretti, 49, of Trieste, a member of Desio's team.

"We will study the thickness of Earth crust under the Himalayas with measurements of the gravity field along some profiles from the Tengi plains (south of the Himalayan ranges) to the Tibetan Plateau (in the north)," he added. "The determination of the actual movements of the crust is done with measurements of the elevation of the main peaks of the mountain range."

Desio led a 1984 Italian expedition that put two climbers on top of the 8,611-metre (28,244-foot) K-2, the world's second tallest mountain.

Nawaz Sharif's Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) are vying with each other to produce the biggest display of popular support.

On Monday the "campaign" reaches a head. Benazir, 36, will address a rally in Karachi and Sharif, 39, a gathering in his

powerbase Lahore.

Both sides have made use of government machinery for their rallies — Benazir at federal level and Sharif in the Punjab provincial government, of which he is chief minister.

Civil servants issue invitations, official advertisements are placed in the press to summon the people, transport is laid on at taxpayers' expense.

Both sides play the numbers game — attracting the maximum number of supporters and seeking to ensure that the most inflated estimates appear in next day's newspapers.

The contest began last month when Sharif decided to honour his political patron, military ruler General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, on the first anniversary of his death in a plane crash.

Zia's legacy had largely vanished as a factor in Pakistani politics but tens of thousands went to say prayers at his tomb at Islamabad's Faisal Mosque on Aug. 17.

Zia was Benazir's implacable enemy and only his still unexplained death enabled her to win last November's elections. The term is for five years.

The IDA followed up 10 days later with an unexpectedly sizeable rally in Peshawar, the North West Frontier Province capital, where a PPP coalition government is under threat.

Benazir hit back last Thursday with an unprecedented celebration of Defence Day in Rawalpindi. As well as formally burying a 12-year feud with the military, who overthrew her father in 1977, she got the biggest

More than 100,000 people waving PPP flags thronged the streets of Rawalpindi, where military headquarters are situated, in what was generally acknowledged to be the biggest rally the town had known.

But, as respected commentator Maleeha Lodhi said, the PPP's legendary ability to draw the crowds should never have been in doubt. "It seems the PPP has fallen right into the IDA's trap," she wrote in the Muslim newspaper on Sunday.

"Deflecting the PPP's energies away from governance and towards the politics of jalsa (rallies), takes it even further away from establishing itself as a party of government."

"The test of a party in power lies not so much in how large a rally it can organise but how effectively and efficiently it can govern," Lodhi said.

"They are really playing our game," commented top Sharif aide Hussain Haqqani. "What we have proved in the past few weeks is that not only can we get crowds, but we can get them chanting pro-Zia slogans."

Mondays' rallies are theoretically to mark the anniversary of the death in 1948 of the founder of Pakistan, Mohammad Ali Jinnah. In practice they are another political test of strength.



An East German seeking to cross to the West laughs as he burns a leaflet distributed by East German officials in Budapest Sept. 5. (Reuter wirephoto)

Dilemma for East Germans

BONN, Sept. 10, (Reuter): The thousands of East German refugees due to stream into West Germany this week will find their new home comfortably familiar and strangely — sometimes disturbingly — foreign.

Forty years of cold war division have not changed Germany's common language or traditions much and refugees — mostly young and ambitious skilled workers — should settle in quickly.

But, according to East Germans, already living here, refugees often find the thrill of escaping their communist homeland gives way to frustration at the little things that have changed on this side of the "iron curtain" border.

Money is more important, friendships are different and women are less liberated in the West, the East Germans complain in interviews appearing in West German newspapers and magazines.

A record 100,000 East German refugees are expected this year, more than any time since a massive exodus prompted East Germany to build the Berlin Wall in 1961.

Many of those already here say their first shock was simply trying to operate in an open and competitive society.

"You have no money, no relatives, no work. You don't even have an idea what money is worth," Hilde, a 45-year-old psychologist with two children, said in Der Spiegel.

"You panic. It takes a while before you can even throw away half the junk mail you get without looking at it."

"I have a hard time standing up for myself," said Josefina, a book store saleswoman.

An electrician echoed a frequent complaint that life is more superficial than in East Germany, where friendships help compensate for the frustrations of a regimented public life.

"We wanted to get out of that closed society and now we suddenly notice that it had a cosiness that was much more important to us than Western freedom is," said Guenter, who like most did not give his family name to save his relatives trouble.

Exodus within hours

Hungary may lift border

BUDAPEST, Sept. 10, (Reuter): A long-awaited exodus of thousands of East Germans from Hungary to the West appeared imminent today and official sources in Bonn said the refugees would be on their way within hours.

The sources said the first of some 6,500 refugees packed into three camps in Budapest and lake Balaton would start their exodus tonight.

Sources in Hungarian state television said Foreign Minister Gyula Horn would make a statement about the issue on television around 1700 GMT.

Speculation grew that the refugees, more of whom keep arriving in the makeshift camps all the time, would be allowed to travel to Austria and thence to the West.

It appeared increasingly likely that Budapest would simply lift the border for East Germans rather than call in the International Committee of the Red Cross to issue special passports, a process which could take days.

In Bonn, official sources told Reuters that Austria, which has already lifted visa requirements for the East Germans, would lift its borders from mid-month.

Hungarian border officials said they expected the refugees to travel by all available means, including train, bus and private car, and would use several border crossings to Austria.

In the refugee camps the mood was optimistic as word spread of an imminent solution.

In the Zanka camp on the shores of lake Balaton, Hungary's main holiday resort, Red Cross officials reported that a huge celebration party had taken place among the 3,000 inmates on Saturday night.

In the Czibber camp in Budapest, the 2,500 inmates were organising a collection of the last of their East bloc currency, which is not convertible in the West, to give to camp staff.

The exodus of East Germans had been expected to start last week, but ran into last-minute problems as Budapest struggled to find a solution acceptable to their hard-line allies in East Berlin, who have demanded the refugees return home.

Relations between the two Warsaw Pact members have already come under severe strain as Budapest continues to set the pace on political and economic reforms in the East bloc while East Germany rejects any need for change.



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Benazir, Sharif in battle of rallies

Political test of strength

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The daily Sotsialistischekaya Industria said the basement in the west Ukrainian town of Vinnitsa was being used to store calcium carbide, which released highly flammable gas on contact with the atmosphere.

"Nineteen people were killed and two more injured, 20 flats were completely wrecked and 10 others partially destroyed — that was the sad outcome," the newspaper said.

It did not say when the accident happened.

Made in England

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and disease of the lung, heart and arteries.

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1989

PEOPLE AND PLACES

RIO DE JANEIRO: The woman who masterminded the 1986 kidnap of an infant who was found two years living as the adopted child of an Israeli couple has been sentenced to three years in jail, O Estado news agency reported today.

Arieh Hila, who is already serving a three-year jail term for baby smuggling, was sentenced to another three years behind bars in the city of Curitiba for planning the 1986 kidnap of Bruno Vasconcelos, a four-month-old infant at the time.

Vasconcelos was abducted by a member of Hila's ring, who posed as a baby sitter. Bruno lived for 20 months as Carolyn Turgeman with adoptive parents in Lod, Israel, who said they had no idea she had been abducted. (Reuter)

NEW YORK: Donald Trump, whose name already adorns two casinos, a Manhattan skyscraper, an air shuttle, a bicycle race and a board game, scrapped plans to go video Wednesday due to a contractual snag, a publicist said.

The billionaire developer was to join Thursday with executives for Lorimar Television and Warner Brothers to announce plans for Trump Card, a new television series, but the deal fell through, said Barry Stagg, spokesman for Warner Brothers television. (AP)

CLEVELAND: A woman who had been taking fertility drugs delivered quintuplets last evening, but one of the infants was stillborn, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Elaine McKeithen delivered three girls and a boy, said university hospital spokeswoman Fran Armento.

The fifth baby, a girl, was born dead, the spokeswoman said. (AP)

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey: The king of body-building will not be on hand to help crown the new Miss America.

Actor and muscleman Arnold Schwarzenegger, an Austria native, declined to be one of the contest judges because his wife, television reporter Maria Shriver, plans to report on the contest for the NBC network, pageant director Leonard Horn said on Thursday.

"She assured me that her post was unbreakable and she felt there was a conflict of interest," Horn said. (AP)

RENO, Nevada: Singer La Toya Jackson has denied she married her manager and said someone else must have signed her name to wedding documents.

"It could have been an imposter," Ms Jackson said on Thursday by telephone. "It's totally untrue that I got married. I'm not ready for marriage yet. I'm too involved in my career right now." (AP)



Not amused

UK worried Sex in space

LONDON: Sept 10. (Reuters) A British scientist is worried about lack of research on sex in space and wants more experiments there.

Roy Levin, a consultant at Sheffield University's Institute of Space Biomedicine, has written a discussion paper on the subject for the British Interplanetary Society Journal.

"We must now plan for the long-term occupancy of space and, to do so, we must grasp the nettle of human sexuality in space," he told the Sunday Express newspaper.

He wants the 1991 Anglo-Soviet Juno Mission to carry out sperm count tests. He also wants to look into the toll space travel takes on sexual performance.

Levin says in his paper that since Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin's single Earth orbit in 1961 200 US and Soviet crew, including women, have clocked up about 2,400 days in space.

"Despite that our knowledge about the effects of space travel on the human reproductive system and human sexuality is sparse, bordering on the nonexistent."

SOUTH KINGSTOWN, Rhode Island: The secret to long life is to be "born with a lot of vitality," says a woman who celebrated her 105th birthday with congratulations from more than 30 friends and relatives.

Sadie Purcell received a letter of congratulations from US President George Bush and his wife, Barbara, and a citation from Rhode Island Gov. Edward D. DiPrete at her party Tuesday, one day after her birthday. (AP)

RIO DE JANEIRO: Even Jesus Christ, who looks over this beautiful yet beaten city, is showing signs of fatigue.

The 38-metre (125-foot) statue whose open arms bless Rio de Janeiro below has 26 cracks running down its huge body, technicians from the institute of military engineering reported.

They said time, wind, rain and sea air had taken their toll on the 58-year-old Christ who has witnessed Rio's evolution from a peaceful city huddled between sea and mountains to one troubled by urban violence and dilapidation. (Reuters)

WILKES-BARRE, Pennsylvania: Attorneys for a seventh-day adventist couple convicted of starving their teen-age son to death say they will appeal the verdict on grounds the boy was expressing his freedom of religion.

Fourteen-year-old Eric Cottam died on Jan. 3 after the family went six weeks without food despite \$3,775 set aside by Eric's father, a former seventh-day adventist church pastor, as a tithe for God.

A jury on Friday found Larry Cottam and his wife Leona guilty of third-degree murder and other charges in the cases of Eric and their 12-year-old daughter, Laura, who since has been placed in a foster home. (AP)

NORTHAMPTON, Massachusetts: First Lady Barbara Bush got an honorary degree and some good-natured ribbing at Smith College, which she left in her sophomore year "due to a previous engagement."

"I don't deserve this honour. I'm going to accept it," Mrs Bush said to the raucous approval of more than 4,000 people.

Mrs Bush was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from her work for the homeless, handicapped and illiterate. (AP)

NEVADA: Did Latoya Jackson get married or not? As of Thursday night, the singer was maintaining that she and her manager, Jack Gordon, 50, did not get married in Reno, Nev. But there were people who claim otherwise, such as Washoe County marriage clerk Cheryl Play who says she issued the wedding licence Tuesday night, and commissioner of civil marriages Cecilia Kounaris, who says she then performed the ceremony. Still another county official says she saw a driver's licence with Jackson's name and picture on it. Jackson's spokesman in New York said she and Gordon were due to return to New York during the weekend and may help clear up the matter. (UPI)

NEWARK, New Jersey: Anthony "Fat Tony" Salerno, the 78-year-old boss of the Genovese crime family, was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison, to run consecutively with the 170 years he is already serving.

Salerno's lawyer, John Jacobs, asked US District Judge John Bissell for a concurrent term, noting that Salerno's earliest possible parole date was already 2016, when he would be 104, while 2086 is a more likely date.

"I don't want to make light of it, but the five-year sentence the court could impose here this defendant would never serve, so the terms concurrent and consecutive are meaningless," Jacobs said. (UPI)



Miss Moscow 1989

Miss Moscow '89 poses for a photograph today after winning the annual "Moscow Beauty '89" contest held in the "Russia" State Concert Hall yesterday. In the background are typical Stalin-era apartment blocks. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Batman is not violent or sadistic': director

DEAUVILLE, France: Sept 10, (Reuter) The director of the smash-hit film Batman today criticised censors who have stopped children from seeing their hero.

Tim Burton, speaking to reporters at the Deauville Festival of American Films rejected criticism that violent and sadistic scenes made his film unfit for children.

"I think it is for everyone," said Burton. "I think it's much more subversive to tell (children) that something is bad ... they're going to want to see it anyway."

British film censor James Ferman said in July after seeing the film: "Some of it was very dark, unlike the television series or the comics I read as a boy."

Critics say the modern Batman, played by Michael Keaton, bears little resemblance to the harmless hero portrayed by Adam West in the 1960s television series.

British film censor James Ferman said in July after seeing the film: "Some of it was very dark, unlike the television series or the comics I read as a boy."

Thyroid disorder harms the heart

SAN FRANCISCO: Sept 10. (UPI) Studies show thyroid disorders suffered by an estimated eight million Americans and uncounted millions around the world can lead to heart disease or worsen already present cardiac problems, a researcher has reported.

"For every case in which thyroid dysfunction is the sole cause of heart disease, there are at least nine cases in which it exacerbates heart disease caused by other factors," says Dr Paul Laderson. He is director of clinical endocrinology and metabolism at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore.

Hypothyroidism, marked by a deficiency of the thyroid hormone that is critical to the proper function of virtually every cell in the body, can cause several complications, the most common being pericardial effusion, a collection of fluid in the Sac surrounding the heart, he said.

The deficiency also can lead to heart failure by decreasing the rate and strength of cardiac contraction. Laderson said at the annual meetings of the American Thyroid Association.

"The third and most difficult problem is when hypothyroidism and coronary artery disease occur together," Laderson said in an interview.

"Hypothyroidism causes an increase in the circulating concentrations of low-density lipoprotein — bad cholesterol — and can cause high blood pressure, the second most common predisposing factor for coronary artery disease."

In hypothyroid patients who also suffer from coronary artery narrowing, the medication to correct the thyroid deficiency can worsen the heart disease.

"By increasing the heart rate and strength of heart contraction, the drug can increase the amount of oxygen the heart muscle needs to function," Laderson said.

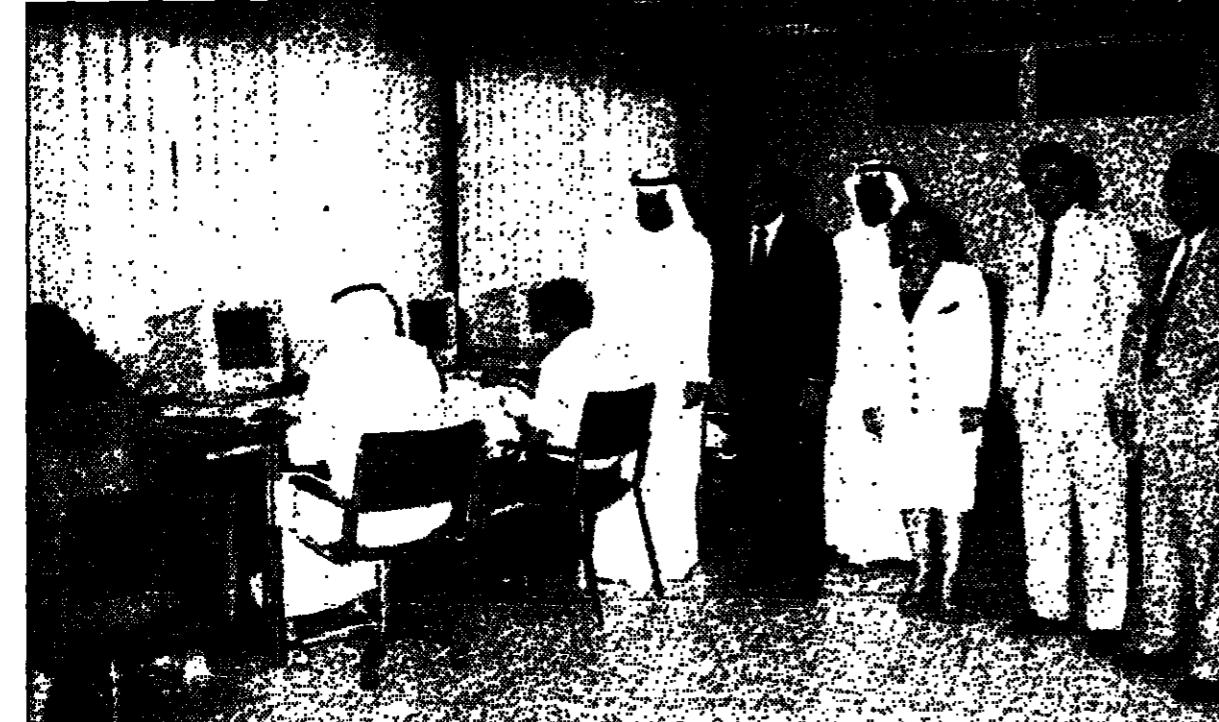
He recommended hypothyroid patients with known or suspected heart disease initially be given low thyroid drug doses, which should be increased by small amounts each month.

"Normally, if you exercise, the cardiac output goes from normal to high. In hyperthyroid patients, the output may be up during rest but may actually go down during exercise," Laderson said.

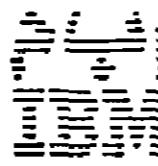
Installation of an IBM Computer at the Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Justice together with Khorafi Business Machines have completed the installation of an IBM 4381-R91E Computer System at the end of June 1989. The system is running JBM most advanced mainframe's operating system MVS/ESA. This installation was completed one month after contract signature.

This installation represents one of the most advanced application development platform. The operating system MVS/ESA, IBM relational database DB2, together with IBM fourth generation language CSP are the basis of this platform. This is contributing effectively to the productivity of the application development and the modernization of the technical and administrative system at the Ministry of Justice.



From left to right: Mr. Mohamed Hamed Al-Roomi - DP Manager at Ministry of Justice, Mr. Josef De Georgi - General Manager of Khorafi Business Machines, Mr. Adel-Karim Yassin - Operation Supervisor, Mrs. Faten Al-Feel - System Development Controller, Mr. Soubhi Chebib - Marketing Manager, Mr. Botrous Thalouth - System Engineer in Khorafi Business Machines and some application development staff at the Ministry.



From left to right: Mr. Mohamed Hamed Al-Roomi - DP Manager at Ministry of Justice, Mr. Josef De Georgi - General Manager of Khorafi Business Machines, Mr. Adel-Karim Yassin - Operation Supervisor.



Operators in the Computer room.

نحوه (الرقم السادس) (الرقم السادس) (الرقم السادس)
وكيل شركة اب مولد تريل كوربوريشن
تلفون: ٤١٧٥ - ٤٦٥٣٠٠٠ - صب ١٣٠٤٢
Khorafi Business Machines (W.L.L)
Agent for IBM World Trade Corporation
Telephone: 5653000 - P.O.Box 4175 Safat, 13042 KUWAIT

شكراً من الأفضل

Koch's political survival at stake

NEW YORK, Sept 10. (Reuters): America's best-known and most controversial Mayor, Edward Koch, is fighting for his political life in a mayoral primary contest that could be decided along racial lines.

Koch, a Jew dismissed by many blacks as a racist, is seeking the backing of New York Democrats for a shot at an unprecedented fourth term as mayor of the city which many say has become ungovernable.

Manhattan borough president David Dinkins, a quiet, dignified man bidding to become the city's first black mayor, stands in his way.

With opinion polls putting the two neck and neck, New York Democrats vote on Tuesday to decide whether to nominate Koch, Dinkins or one of two other candidates as the party candidate in the November mayoral election.

On the Republican side former federal prosecutor Rudolph Giuliani is expected to beat billionaire Ronald Lauder easily in his party's primary.

BUT Giuliani, once considered a real threat to Koch, has run a fumbling campaign that some experts say has ruined his chances. "He is a balloon that is constantly deflating," said one Democratic worker.

Koch has made a remarkable comeback for a man written off as late as two months ago as politically dead.

In early July, he was barely attracting 30 per cent of voters and enduring taunts of being washed up after 12 turbulent years in office, presiding over a city that seems to lurch from crisis to crisis, growing richer and poorer at the same time.

A New York daily News-ABC poll published on Friday pointed to a cliffhanger, giving Koch 43 per cent support and Dinkins 47 per cent in a survey with a six per cent margin of error.

But the poll also showed increasing polarisation between black and Jewish voters, the city's two biggest voting blocs.

"Dinkins has been able to consolidate his black support whereas the Jewish vote has clearly come home to Koch," says ABC pollster John Brennan.

Behind this lies the ugly aftermath of a racial killing of a black youth who wandered into a white neighbourhood.

Three weeks ago, Yusuf Hawkins was shot dead by a gang of white youths in the Brooklyn section of Bensonhurst. He had gone to buy a used car with friends and was killed by a gang looking for a black man dating a white woman.

Political experts say that until the killing, race was a subliminal campaign issue. The murder drove away other issues.

Name the urban problem and New York has it—an estimated 800,000 drug addicts out of a population of over seven million, hospitals so jammed with AIDS victims that they cannot tend to ordinary emergencies and schools where almost half the students leave early.

Armies of homeless people camp out in front of luxury apartment buildings and the majestic Grand Central Station. Water pipes burst spraying streets with deadly asbestos. Blacks and whites seem to deal with each other with increasing fear spurred on by ugly racial incidents.

Koch has appointed more blacks to city posts than any other mayor in New York history but he has been plagued by poor relations with the community which formed 32 per cent of Democratic voters in the 1988 presidential primary.

Suicide mystery

TURIN, Sept 10, (AP): Italian newspapers said yesterday there was no evidence to link the suicide of the former Italian military attaché in Baghdad to a growing bank scandal.

The scandal at Italy's largest bank swirls around unauthorised export credits to Iraq granted by the bank's Atlanta, Georgia branch.

Bank officials have said the credit concerned grain, agricultural and industrial machinery and plants. They denied allegations in the press that the credits were used for the illegal sale of weapons to Iraq.

Air force Col. Giuseppe Schiavo shot himself to death on Thursday at his home in Turin. Authorities said he did not leave a note. Until a year ago, the colonel was the Italian military attaché in Baghdad.

With his death coming at the time that the scandal broke, Italian newspapers speculated that the suicide could be tied to the scandal. However, the newspapers said there was no evidence to tie Schiavo to the bank.

Doin' fine doin' time

Mother knows best

WASHINGTON, Sept 10, (UPI): Elizabeth Morgan's landmark stay in the DC jail for refusing to let her ex-husband see their daughter is, by all indications, nearing an end.

Both houses of Congress have approved bills specifically written to end her more than two-year incarceration, and the full District of Columbia court of appeals is set to hear her case for freedom Sept 20.

Her attorneys say Morgan, who has never been convicted of a crime, has spent more time behind bars for civil contempt-of-court than anyone in US history.

But Morgan, a plastic surgeon by trade, says she expected nothing less on Aug 28, 1987, when she defied DC superior court Judge Herbert Dixon and entered the city jail rather than disclose the whereabouts of her young daughter.

"I knew what I was getting into when I came here," Morgan said in a telephone interview from the jail. "I'd been in the court system for so long, and I know how they simply could not deal with the problem."

Morgan maintains her daughter Hilary, who celebrated her 6th and 7th birthdays in hiding, is now healthy and safe. She claims the child was sexually abused by Morgan's former husband, Dr Eric Foretich, and would have been subjected to continued abuse had court orders been followed.

Dixon, citing years of court jostling in the case, has said there is no credible evidence that Foretich, an oral surgeon from the Washington suburb of McLean, Virginia, ever harmed the girl.

Foretich steadfastly denies the sexual abuse charges. He thinks Morgan is mentally unstable.

An upbeat Morgan, unruled by constant background noise of the DC jail, said during the interview that she felt little remorse as her second anniversary behind bars came and went Aug 28.

Accomplishment

"I feel sort of a personal accomplishment at having finished my second year. I feel kind of triumphant," Morgan said. "My mindset makes it possible for me to do that. My daughter is safe, and it makes jail really not a big problem for me."

"It's not telling you I want to be here," she added, quickly. "It's frankly a pretty miserable place."

Morgan, 42, has lost her business and, she says, her credibility with many former co-workers. But she claims the two years have been—in many ways—a blessing.

"I've read (Alexander) Solzhenitsyn's 'The Gulag Archipelago.' I've read reports from South African jails, Argentina, 'The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich.' I'm a very lucky person to have this happen in America. If I'm going to be a victim of injustice, let me be a victim of injustice in America," she said.

Morgan has become a national symbol for some women's rights groups and advocates against child abuse, which she says "astounds me."

"For so long, people just wrote me off as totally insane," she said. "They wouldn't even give me the time of day."

She has also become a self-proclaimed expert on the US penal system. "I'm a highly trained physician who has been sent into the DC jail to do a long-range study, that's the way I see it," she said, laughing.

Since entering jail, Morgan has also become engaged to be married to a federal judge, no less.

"It's interesting. I would never ask to come here, but I think that I know more about the problems of crime and drugs than any other non-criminal in the United States," she said. "I am the only person who has lived day and night, side-by-side for two years with killers, drug dealers. They are presently my friends."

Even in the face of mounting evidence that her release is imminent—boostered by Senate approval Thursday of a bill to place a retroactive one-year limit on the time a person can be jailed for contempt in a child custody case in the nation's capital—Morgan maintains she is prepared to stay in jail until Hilary is 18.

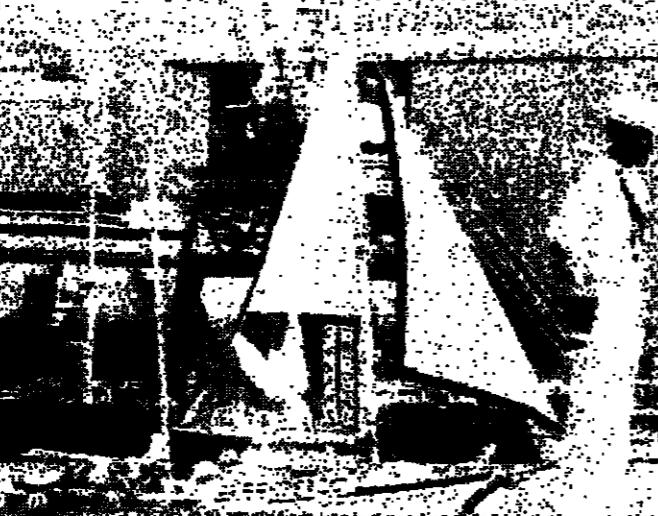
"I don't have a future and I haven't had a future for two years," she said.

"From a professional point of view, I don't know," she said, when pressed about what she will do when release does come. "I'd like to think I would write a book about my experience in jail. People would be surprised about what living in jail really is."

Prior to her jailing, Morgan authored three books, including "Custody," which details her divorce from Foretich and battle to retain custody of their only child. Morgan left Foretich in August 1982, one week before Hilary is born.

Morgan said regardless of other activities, speaking out against child sexual abuse will become a life-long calling. "I have a moral commitment to try to get our country to protect other children, as well as my own."

Morgan has consistently refused to discuss Hilary's whereabouts, but said the child celebrated her 7th birthday Aug 21 in safety.



Trident protest

A sailor stands on the stern of the USS Pennsylvania which was commissioned at the Naval Underwater Systems Centre Sept 9 as a Greenpeace protest boat sailed by. The Pennsylvania is the 10th US Trident missile submarine to be commissioned and six people were arrested following the protest. (Reuters wirephoto)



Drug bomb blast

A Colombian soldier watches as a fireman tries to extinguish flames from a car bomb late Friday. Five people were injured in the blast and

many nearby buildings damaged. Drug traffickers are believed responsible for the bomb. (Reuters wirephoto)

Clamour to sack minister

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 10, (Reuters): South Africa's police violence against anti-apartheid protesters appears to be soering new leader F.W. de Klerk's honeymoon with foreign opinion and threatening his hopes of averting harsher economic sanctions.

As anti-apartheid leaders vowed today to pursue their protests, white opposition politicians urged De Klerk to sack his Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, who is in charge of the police.

Protesters plan an illegal march on Parliament — where the black majority has no representation — when it convenes in Cape Town on Wednesday.

"Every time our people get killed, shot or injured we will march on the streets," reformed churches leader Alan Boesak said.

Urging Vlok's sacking, white opposition chief Zach de Beer said: "It is hard to avoid the conclusion that the dismissal of Mr Vlok would be a gesture of value at a time like this."

De Beer, co-leader of the Liberal Democratic Party, added: "At least it might buy a little time during which the task of constitutional reform can be tackled."

De Klerk's National Party returned to power in last Wednesday's parliamentary elections, pledging reform and hoping black leaders would accept a limited say in central government.

Anti-apartheid groups and trade unions protested the police because the country's 25 million blacks had no vote. Millions stayed away from work in protest and many staged demonstrations.

Church leaders say riot police reacted by shooting indiscriminately in black and coloured (mixed-race) townships around Cape Town on Wednesday night, killing more than 20 people and injuring many others, including young children.

Allegations of brutal behaviour were supported by doctors. One police officer compared the riot squad to "wild dogs."

Vlok is fighting back. He has said only 15 people died on Wednesday and 10 of these were killed in a gang fight. He argued that the protests were violent and police had to act.

De Klerk, who must announce his cabinet soon, has yet to comment on the police actions.

Adverse publicity is dangerous for South Africa because sanctions pressures are mounting abroad.

In mid-October British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will lecture at a Commonwealth conference in Kuala Lumpur to fend off demands for tough new financial measures against South Africa.

The US Congress faces mid-term elections soon and opponents of sanctions there will need evidence of progress in South Africa if they are to block new anti-apartheid moves.

Most crucially, in mid-1990 Pretoria begins to renegotiate \$8 billion of short-term foreign debt which it cannot repay because foreign banks have cut credit lines.

Last Wednesday reputed Medellin cartel financier

Colombia seizes 21 farms of drug barons

US military to have expanded role

BOGOTA, Sept 10, (Agencies): Colombia's powerful and wealthy drug barons have suffered a new setback in their war against the government with the seizure of 21 luxurious farms and ranches said to belong to them.

The military said it had raided 42 residences during the past week in the Magdalena Medio region of central Colombia and seized 21 farms and ranches, some sumptuously decorated.

Yesterday brigadier General Carlos Julio Gil told reporters in the town of Puerto Boyaca, a centre of cartel-backed paramilitary hit squad activity, that 7,000 hectares of land had also been confiscated.

The military said 13 of the residences seized were owned by front-men but in fact belonged to reputed

The Americans include DEA agents and contracted Vietnam war veterans who fly and maintain the nine Bell helicopters and two C-123 cargo planes on loan to Peru.

The base is strategically located near all of the most important trafficking areas, said Gen. Juan Zarate, chief of the drug police.

The Peruvian army, armed with newly acquired Soviet armoured helicopters, recently launched its heaviest campaign so far against the Shining Path in the valley.

The Andean commission of jurists, a human rights organisation, noted recently that while the base is intended for the drug fight, "observers are concerned that in the medium term it can be converted into a springboard for the internationalisation of the counter-insurgency fight in Peru."

"It's probably the most hostile situation the DEA works in anywhere," Chretien said in an interview in Lima.

Earlier this year, the Shining Path, known in Spanish as Sendero Luminoso, offered a \$50,000 reward for any DEA agent caught in the valley and killed, said the Rev. Paul Feely, a Canadian priest working in Ayacucho, a town 35 miles (56 km) north of Tingo Maria.

"The DEA has become a dirty word in the Huallaga valley. Sendero, and most other people around here, too, see the DEA as anti-subversive, not just anti-drug," Feely said.

In return for providing protection from police raids, the Shining Path, with about 2,500 fighters, enjoys the support of tens of thousands of peasants who grow coca in the valley, earning 10 times what they could from other crops.

The guerrillas collect a 10 to 15 per cent "tax" from the growers, as well as charging Colombian traffickers \$10,000 to 15,000 for each small plane that picks up cocaine paste for refining in Colombia, according to the peasants and police.

Houses along the jungle highway leading out of Tingo Maria, the largest town in the valley, are scrawled in blood-red paint with deadly messages for the DEA.

"Get out, Yankees, while you can — you will find your tomb here," said one warning on a rural school building.

The DEA is not permitted to take part in counter-insurgency wars, but in practice, that changed in Peru when it became clear two years ago that the guerrillas were actively involved in the cocaine trade.

"The rule is that Sendero is fair game if they're trafficking in drugs. What counts is if they're traffickers, not their politics," Chretien said. "That dream, mean we go looking for guerrilla camps or columns. But if we spot them from the air, we notify the police. And if they attack us, we defend ourselves."

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Peru joins drug war

TINGO MARIA, Sept 10, (AP): Peruvian government forces have opened a major offensive against drug gangs and their allies — Maoist guerrillas who control much of the lush upper Huallaga river valley on the east

front slopes of the Andes.

Armed US narcotics agents trained in tropical combat are preparing to move into a heavily fortified police garrison built with funds from the United States, in the heart of Peru's coca-rich jungle.

The United States is making the campaign in Peru the centerpiece of its drive against cocaine trafficking in the Andean nations, which supply the coca-leaf from which the drug is refined.

US officials say the American drug agents aren't concerned with the guerrillas' political only with their drug activity. But the US drug-fighting team's presence in the valley has led to speculation that the United States could be drawn into the overall war against the Shining Path guerrilla group.

"Sixty to 70 per cent of the world's coca production comes out of here. Peru, of all the countries, offers the best opportunity to do significant damage to the coca trade," says Craig Chretien, chief of the US Drug Enforcement Administration's operations in Peru.

Base.

The anti-drug base is at Santa Lucia, 65 miles (100 km) north west of Tingo Maria. After it is completed in October, as many as 50 Americans will operate directly from the upper Huallaga region, providing training and air support to some 300 police rangers assigned to the garrison. The Americans include DEA agents and contracted Vietnam war veterans who fly and maintain the nine Bell helicopters and two C-123 cargo planes on loan to Peru.

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"The DEA has become a dirty word in the Huallaga valley. Sendero, and most other people around here, too, see the DEA as anti-subversive, not just anti-drug," Feely said.

In return for

US will give Manila hardware to fight reds

MANILA, Sept 10, (UPI): Armed forces chief Gen. Renato de Villa said this week the United States will deliver by mid-1990 \$64 million worth of helicopter gunships and navy patrol boats to help in the Philippine government's campaign against communist rebels.

The military meanwhile said soldiers

killed a ranking rebel field commander operating outside the US-run Subic Bay naval complex during a raid on his hideout in Bataan province, 40 miles (60 km) west of Manila.

Bataan police provincial commander Col. Ramsey Ocampo identified the slain guerrilla as Crisostomo Barra, the military meanwhile said soldiers

one of the most wanted rebel leaders in the country with a 150,000 peso (\$7,000) reward for his capture.

Ocampo said Barra was a field commander of the communist New People's Army (NPA) in the provinces of Bataan and Zambales, where the US naval base is located.

De Villa, who recently returned from a one-day visit to the United States, said in a news conference US officials have agreed to deliver by June next year 24 MG 520 helicopter gunships worth \$1 million each and 35 navy patrol boats amounting to \$40 million.

He said the delivery was under

Washington's foreign military sales package and would be used in the war against the 23,000-strong NPA, whose guerrillas have killed at least four US servicemen in retaliation for alleged American involvement.

De Villa said US military officials agreed to speed up delivery of more

assistance to the 160,000-strong Philippine armed forces, including engineering, communications, medical and dental equipment.

"The officials were very positive and responsive to our requests particularly in our counter-insurgency efforts," he said.

Filipino rebels killed

MANILA, Sept 10, (AP): Army troops backed by artillery fire and air strikes killed an estimated 20 communist rebels in a clash in a southern Philippine province, the military reported today.

One soldier also was killed and another was wounded in the three-hour firefight on Friday, Philippine army headquarters in Manila reported.

The battle erupted after soldiers and civilian militiamen on patrol encountered more than 100 New People's Army rebels in Tulan, a town in north Cotabato, 600 miles (960 km) southeast of Manila, it said.

Meanwhile, a rebel leader claimed today that opponents of American bases in the Philippines are the targets of an assassination plot hatched by supporters of President Corazon Aquino and the US government.

Antonio Zunel, spokesman of the communist-led National Democratic Front, said the plot would be carried out before the start of official talks between the Philippine and US governments on the future of American military facilities here after their lease expires in 1991.

The plot involves the neutralisation and even worse, the assassination, of leading personalities from the NDF (the Communist Party of the Philippines) and the legal movement who are opposed to the US bases, "Zunel said in a statement sent to news agencies.

Zunel said NDF supporters who were "close to Malacanang" (the presidential palace) advised the rebels about the plot, which allegedly was hatched by "forces identified with the Aquino and the US government," last December.

11 dead, 3000 homeless as Sarah hits



A Vietnamese refugee climbs over a fence at a detention center. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hanoi to stem flow Exodus of Vietnamese

HANOI, Sept 10, (Reuter): The Vietnamese singer and her lover steal aboard a rickety fishing boat heading for a new life abroad. Pirates ferociously attack at sea, raping and pillaging, and killing everyone except the singer.

A passing Australian cargo ship rescues her. The singer and the captain fall in love. She stays with him in Australia but never stops pinning for her family back in

the north. She stays with him in Australia but never stops pinning for her family back in the north.

The tale, a sanitised and glamourised version of what is often grim reality, is the plot of a new film showing in the northern Vietnamese port of Haiphong, a departure point for many boat people.

Entitled "On the Brink", it is the latest propaganda effort by the communist authorities to stop the flow of illegal emigration that has led desperate Vietnamese to packed camps across Southeast Asia, particularly Hong Kong.

"It is in our interest to prevent these illegal departures," Le Tho, director of the consular department of the Foreign Ministry, said in an interview.

The Hanoi government, trying to run a country almost bereft of economic resources, is committed to removing the political obstacles to Western credits.

At international meetings this year Hanoi accepted responsibility for the stream of economic refugees that has flowed eastwards with the trade winds to Hong Kong and as far away as Japan.

In recent weeks teams of officials have been sent round impoverished northern provinces, including Haiphong and Quang Ninh, publicising the dangers of a boat passage and explaining the strict barriers to eventual resettlement in a third country.

"There have been some results, but it's still too early to assess them. We know only that if we had not brought in these measures the flow would have been greater," said Le Tho.

The long-term solution is to ease the economic crisis which has driven people to leave, but in the short term the emphasis is on persuading refugees in camps abroad, including more than 40,000 in Hong Kong to volunteer to return home.

"There are some very encouraging signs," said Charles-Henry Bazoche, representative in Hanoi of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Gabrielle still strong: Hurricane Gabrielle remained alive in the north Atlantic early today as deadly waves from the weakening storm capsized a houseboat carrying 11 people off New York City, killing at least one woman.

Forecasters predicted the stationary storm would eventually slide south of the Canadian province of Newfoundland.

In New York, high waves attributed to Gabrielle swamped the houseboat off the Rockaways early today, washing the 11 people on the boat overboard and killing at least one, police and the Coast Guard said.

Nine people made their way to shore safely in a raft, but one woman drowned and her body washed ashore on the rocky beach and another man was reported missing, authorities said.

Merging strike forces: US Attorney-General Dick Thornburgh told sceptical senators this week that merging the Justice Department's anti-mob units into US attorneys' offices will end bureaucratic turf battles hurting the fight against organized crime.

To end the turf battles is at the very heart of what the president has directed that attorney-general to do," Thornburgh told a joint hearing of the senate judiciary and governmental affairs committees.

"You can't have turf battles when you have only one turf," Thornburgh said of his plan to merge the 14 organised crime strike forces now working independently of local US prosecutors into the US attorneys' offices.

The attorney-general said the strike forces created in the late 1960s have been slow to respond to changes in organised crime away from the traditional Mafia families to "newer criminal groups, such as the Colombian drug cartels, Asian organised crime groups" and street gangs. (UPI)

Plane wreckage found: The wreckage of a military plane that disappeared more than two weeks ago was discovered yesterday in the southern California Mountains, officials said.

Two bodies found at the scene were tentatively identified as the two crew members from the reconnaissance plane, said Lt Gen. Brown, spokesman for the El Toro base.

The plane, an OV-10 assigned to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, left Camp Pendleton on Aug 24 for a three-hour mission and was never heard from again.

The plane was discovered in the San Gorgonio wilderness.

San Bernardino county sheriff's department officials and the military both took credit for finding the airplane.

Sheriff's Sgt. Jim Singley spotted the crash site on the 5,300-foot (1,600-metre) ridge of San Gorgonio Mountain, Bryant said. (AP)

Search ends: Rescue workers today officially ended their search for about 90 passengers still missing in the sinking of a wooden ferry off the Indonesian island of Java.

A rescue official said more bodies had been recovered from rough seas during the past two days, bringing the official death toll to 37 with 90 people still unaccounted for since the ferry overturned Sept 2 in huge waves in the Madura Straits 500 miles east of Jakarta. There were 48 survivors.

Rescuers said the bodies recovered during the weekend were found up to 130 miles from the scene of the tragedy.

The ferry was carrying about 175 passengers when it left Surabaya en route to the island of Sapudi when it capsized.

Indonesia, Southeast Asia's largest nation, is comprised of 13,000 islands. Java is one of the largest. (UPI)

2,500 boat people evacuated

HONG KONG, Sept 10, (AP): The government evacuated 2,500 Vietnamese boat people from an outlying island today amid an outbreak of cholera there, officials reported. Earlier, the detention centre had been the scene of a riot.

Officials said the Vietnamese were moved from Tai A Chau island aboard three landing

craft and two boats to nearby Heiling Chau island, a former leper colony.

Another 2,000 Vietnamese living in tents on Tai A Chau will be evacuated to Heiling Chau tomorrow, the officials said.

Officials said the evacuation began one day ahead of schedule because of fears of Typhoon Sarah heading for the British

colony. The storm, bearing centre winds of 120 kilometres (72 miles) an hour, killed at least three people in the Philippines, officials said today.

Last month, a riot erupted on Tai A Chau when 1,000 Vietnamese hurled stones at police after a dispute over the distribution of rice, and police responded by firing tear gas.



Defector
Chinese First Lieutenant Jiang Wenhe, 24 Sept 7 shows reporters how he piloted MiG-19 to defect to Taiwan. (Reuter wirephoto)

Nixon will visit China

WOODCLIFF LAKE, New Jersey, Sept 10, (AP): Former US president Richard Nixon is making plans to visit China alone after earlier plans for a group trip were cancelled, his spokesman says.

Political unrest forced Nixon to put off his visit this fall with six friends, among them William Simon, former treasury secretary in Nixon's administration, spokesman John Taylor said last week.

Taylor said Nixon had been invited by China's government, and that the US State Department knew about the former president's plans. No date has been set for the trip.

Nixon has visited the People's Republic of China five times. His first visit, in 1972, was also the first by a US president.

The following year, China and the United States opened diplomatic offices on each other's soil after a break during the Vietnam war.

Nixon's representatives and Chinese officials are arranging the details of a sixth visit.

The purpose of the solo trip would be to have extensive discussions with the top leaders of China, Taylor said, noting the former president has done the same on every trip to China.

"He's not doing it at the behest of US officials, the spokesman said.

Doi to respect treaty

Japanese opposition in coalition talks

TOKYO, Sept 10, (AP): A socialist party-led coalition government would work for the withdrawal of US military bases from Japan and the suspension of joint military exercises but would respect the existing US-Japan Security Treaty, party chairwoman Takako Doi said today.

The policies of Japan's No. 1 opposition party have attracted attention after July elections in which the Liberal Democratic Party lost its majority in parliament's upper house for the first time in its 34-year history.

The opposition has been discussing a coalition in case the governing conservatives also lose elections for the more powerful lower house, which must be held by next July.

Other opposition parties have called the Socialists' long-time anti-military policies unrealistic, and the socialists have softened them. The party formerly called for abolishing the security treaty with Washington.

"Our coalition government will pledge it will maintain the US-SECURITY Pact in the interest of diplomatic continuity, apply strictly the three non-nuclear

weapons, critics charge the United States has brought in nuclear arms. The United States refuses to comment on the locations of nuclear weapons.

"In this new age of detente, we will reverse a political trend from military expansion to one favouring peace and disarmament, with the key word being 'common security,'" Doi said.

In a speech intended to clarify her party's policy framework, called the "Doi Vision," she said, "we can hear voices saying that the Socialist Party must become realistic. This can also be taken as criticism of the Socialist Party's policies on the self-defence forces (Japan's military), the US-Japan Security Treaty, and nuclear power plants."

"I would like to listen frankly to such criticism," said the charismatic chairwoman who led the socialists to major gains in the July elections.

The socialists and three other opposition parties are scheduled to meet later this month to discuss coalition policies.

Doi said a socialist-led coalition would "try our best to reform Japanese politics, which has lost the people's trust."

principles, stop US-Japan joint military exercises and work to reduce and withdraw US military bases," Doi said at the opening of a three-day party policy-makers' meeting in Kuroiso, 150 kilometres (90 miles) north of Tokyo.

The party calls for the United States to aid in Japan's defence and provides for US bases in Japan.

Although Japan bars the making, storing or entry of nuclear

principles, stop US-Japan joint military exercises and work to reduce and withdraw US military bases," Doi said at the opening of a three-day party policy-makers' meeting in Kuroiso, 150 kilometres (90 miles) north of Tokyo.

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Go 'yel' it on the mountain

NEW YORK, Sept 10, (Agencies): Soviet Communist Party radical Boris Yeltsin arrived in New York yesterday and expressed a desire to meet with US President George Bush and observe American democracy in action.

"America has had more than 200 years of experience with a democratic government, although it is a bourgeois democracy," Yeltsin told reporters through an interpreter. "We are just getting out of the egg in that respect."

In his first trip to the United States at the invitation of Esalen Institute's Soviet American exchange programme, Yeltsin said he planned to meet with businessmen, politicians and university economists.

"We have got to learn from the United States

how to work and how to live," he said.

Yeltsin, who won more votes than any other delegate to the Congress of People's Delegates in the first open election in the Soviet Union in 70 years last March, said he would be happy to meet with the US leader "if President Bush wants to meet with me."

If he is invited by Bush to Washington Yeltsin will have beaten Gorbachev to the White House.

Gorbachev met with Bush and then-president Ronald Reagan last year in New York.

Yeltsin, the second most popular man in the Soviet Union after Gorbachev according to the Soviet poll, said Gorbachev's popularity "has

been falling somewhat lately."

He declined to answer other questions including ones about the recent unrest in several Soviet regions, saying more issues would be addressed today at a news conference in New York.

Yeltsin, who was met by a crowd of reporters, a handful of observers and two Hare Krishna believers, said he would travel to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Chicago and Washington on a speaking tour.

The 58-year-old politician will collect \$25,000 for each speech he will give in the United States, donating the proceeds to Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) research in the Soviet Union.

He is cutting short his visit from the two

weeks originally planned to attend a central committee plenary session on the nationalities issue. He returns to Moscow Sept 18.

The US visit by Yeltsin, who is also writing his autobiography, is a further indication of how open Soviet politics has become under Gorbachev's perestroika reforms.

Two years ago, Yeltsin was removed from his post as Moscow's Communist Party chief after criticising the slow pace of reform under Gorbachev.

But Yeltsin thrived after his dismissal. He campaigned for a seat in the Soviet Congress, and in March was swept into office with more than 90 per cent of the popular vote in the first contested Soviet election since 1917.



Gorbachev hits out at radicals

'Emergency measures to improve economy'



No campaigning

Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland tells reporters that she had agreed with other political parties to end all campaigning for next Monday's national elections following the Norwegian chartered airline plane crash off Denmark that killed all 55 onboard. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sabotage ruled out in crash

COPENHAGEN, Sept 10, (AP): Aviation authorities prepared to launch an underwater salvage operation today to lift a Norwegian charter plane that crashed in the North Sea off Denmark's west coast, presumably killing all 55 aboard.

Experts said metal fatigue in the ageing aircraft was a likely cause of Scandinavia's worst air disaster.

Newspapers reported the aircraft had been involved in a serious accident in 1978 when it belonged to a Honduran airline.

Meanwhile, officials in Denmark and Norway dismissed media speculation that sabotage or accidental fire from naval vessels downed the plane.

Danish Navy Rear Adm. Hans Garde said on Denmark's public television that none of the Nato vessels taking part in a sea exercise in the area had fired their guns or missiles.

"So far there is nothing on the bodies or wreckage of the plane that was caused by an explosion," said Tommy Jensen of the Denmark's air disaster commission.

In Oslo, the Wilhelm Wilhelmsen Shipping Company, which chartered the aircraft, also rejected the sabotage theory.

"The present situation is a tight knot of problems," he said, and listed several of them — con-

sumer goods shortages, ethnic conflicts, and difficulties associated with straightening out "deformations" of the socialist system.

"Attempts are being made to discredit perestroika (reform), acting from both conservative and leftist platforms and very often from openly anti-socialist positions," he said. "In this multi-voice choir are heard threats of the impending chaos, arguments about the threats of the coup and even civil war."

He did not say who was sounding the alarms. But Ligachev on Friday told an audience in Kirgizia that the Soviet Union could disintegrate as a result of its nationalities problems.

Ligachev has called for political measures to stop nationalist unrest that has spread from the Baltic republics and Transcaucasia to Moldavia, the Ukraine and Central Asia.

Gorbachev did not dwell on the subject but said he hoped the policy-making Communist Party central committee, at its coming plenary meeting, would be able to solve the problems

associated with the nationalities and the Soviet federation.

"Fundamental decisions on the transformation of Soviet federation are to be adopted," he said.

The plenum is expected to start on September 18.

Gorbachev also warned against strikes which have become a popular weapon across the country to back demands for everything from more goods in the shops to control of disputed territory and the repeal of language laws.

In Baku, capital of Azerbaijan, hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated on Saturday and declared they would continue a week-long strike for Azer control of the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, which has a predominantly Armenian population.

Gorbachev said the government was working out a programme of extraordinary measures for improving the ailing economy, above all to cure consumer goods shortages. He said some of the measures might be painful but did not elaborate.

"We are ready for co-operation, because our position is not in conflict with perestroika (restructuring) or the progressive forces within the Communist Party," said Miroslav Popovich, a philosophy professor, one of the group's founders.

"The most progressive party leaders recognise the need to do something to change the economic situation," said activist Veniamin Sikora. "It is impossible to change the very serious situation in the republic without economic independence."

Thousands of people carrying the banned yellow and blue Ukrainian national flag were due to march through the city later on Sunday for a rally and open-air mass by the underground Uniate Catholic church.

In an open letter to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, 18 Ukrainian members of parliament called for the Kremlin to look into the political situation in the republic. "The authority of the republic's top leadership has already fallen to zero and is continuing to fall," they said.

Police watched several hundred demonstrators with national flags who gathered outside the conference hall during the three-day congress, which republican authorities refused to transmit on radio or television.

In a first reaction from the ruling Ukrainian Communist party, Leonid Kravchuk, a senior official in the ideology department, told the congress on Saturday he supported calls to strengthen Ukrainian culture and economic independence.

But he also made it clear that the party would not tolerate any attempt at radical change which would challenge its own power in the republic.

"Do not be in a hurry," Kravchuk warned. "There are real political forces in the republic, whose existence must be taken into account."

"There is no mainstream that unites the people in all the regions of our republic in the same way as in the Baltic republics," said Popovich.

"We have more than 50 million people in the Ukraine and the national question is very different in the West, in the Donbas, in Kiev and in the South."



Pope approved plan

Pope John Paul approved an agreement to remove a Catholic convent from the former Nazi death camp at Auschwitz in Poland, a French Jewish leader said in an interview.

Theo Klein, one of the European Jewish leaders who negotiated a 1987 accord in Geneva with the Catholic church to remove the nuns, told the Italian Communist Party newspaper L'Unita:

"Those accords would not have been signed if the Pope had not given (them) his blessing."

The refusal by Polish Roman Catholic church leaders to honour the Geneva Accord, under which the Carmelite nuns were to leave the camp last February, has brought Catholic-Jewish relations to their lowest point in years.

Picture shows file photo of the Carmelite convent. (Reuter wirephoto)

West Germany's accusations against the settlement. The Colonie Dignidad issue has been a source of friction between Bonn and Santiago for the last three years, but judicial charges against the settlement's leaders first appeared more than two decades ago. West Germans have claimed they were forced to work without pay for the colony and were punished by electric shock if they objected. (UPI)

Chance of acquittal: Christer Pettersson, sentenced to life imprisonment in July for killing Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme more than three years ago, has a good chance of being acquitted at his appeals trial which begins on Tuesday.

Pettersson, 42, a self-confessed petty criminal and drug and alcohol abuser, was found guilty on July 27, mainly on circumstantial evidence which resulted in a split verdict.

Two judges on the eight-member jury voted to acquit him but they were outnumbered by six lay assessors. There were no witnesses to the murder and the weapon has never been found. (Reuter)

Moscow to ban: The Soviet Union is to stop foreigners taking home consumer goods ranging from gems and caviar to underwear and shoes in a bid to ease chronic shortages of consumer goods.

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Gorbachev to visit Vatican in November to see Pope

ROME, Sept 10, (Agencies): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will become the first Kremlin leader to meet a Pope when he visits the Vatican in November. Moscow's envoy to Italy confirmed today.

The meeting would be a major step towards a trip to the Soviet Union by Pope John Paul II, who has often said he wants to visit Catholic areas such as the Ukraine and Lithuania.

Ambassador Nikolai Lunkov told Italian radio that Gorbachev's visit to Italy, which has been proposed several times in the past few years, would take place in the second half of November.

Asked if the trip would include a visit by Gorbachev to Polish-born Pope John Paul II at the Vatican, Lunkov said: "Yes, and why not?"

Lunkov, who recently returned to Italy from a meeting with Gorbachev in Moscow, said his comment could be considered an official announcement.

In the radio interview Lunkov also said Gorbachev might meet US President George Bush before the end of the year, but he did not elaborate.

The confirmation of Gorbachev's visit followed a series of high-level contacts between the Vatican and the Kremlin.

Last month, Yuri Karlov, a senior Soviet Foreign Ministry official, gave the Pope a letter

from Gorbachev, which the Soviet news agency Tass said: "Expressed readiness for the further development of Soviet-Vatican relations."

Gorbachev's letter responded to a papal message given to the Soviet leader in June 1988 by a Vatican delegation in Moscow for the millennium of Russian Christianity.

Two weeks after the Vatican delegation returned from Moscow, the Pope created a cardinal for Lithuania.

■ In what appeared to be a gesture of support for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Pope John Paul II gave his blessing today to the people of USSR.

Ozal keeps mum Presidential poll nears

ISTANBUL, Sept 10, (Reuter): Like a poker player with his cards held close to his chest, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is keeping his rivals guessing about what may be his biggest gamble yet — a bid for the Turkish presidency.

A key test of whether his centre-right Motherland Party will back him comes in tomorrow's elections of a newsreader for the 1989-90 parliamentary session.

Ozal has called on the party to re-elect outgoing Speaker Niyazirin Akbulut, but over 25 Motherland deputies back at least five rival candidates.

For both Ozal and the country, the presidential stakes are getting higher. It will be a serious test of Turkish democracy and stability, one Western diplomat said.

"Ozal does not have to declare his candidacy until October 19, when a 20-day parliamentary process starts to elect a successor to President Kenan Evren.

Evren has made clear he will not stay on after his seven-year term ends on November 9.

"I may or may not be a candidate," Ozal has frequently said, provoking newspaper speculation and plunging the political establishment into new bouts of uncertainty.

Ozal, the son of a provincial bank clerk, was more likely than not to stand, wrote Hasso Cemal, editor of the respected Cumhuriyet newspaper. Sources close to Ozal say he has simply not made up his mind.

But some analysts say Ozal, 62, is hinting at presidential ambitions in a bid to general election before his term expires in 1992.

Sezai Motherland Deputy Mehmet Kocaeliler is advising Ozal against the presidency, which has wide veto but no executive powers, saying the loose-knit party still needed him.

This was a way of saying Ozal had no clear successor and the party might collapse without him, diplomatic sources said.

Polish nominees grilled on policy

WARSAW, (AP): Parliamentary hearing for nominees to new Solidarity-led government continued today with deputies grilling candidates on their plans to transform Poland's ailing economy.

The Council of Ministers, or cabinet, proposed so far by Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki gives half of the 24 council seats to Solidarity. Mazowiecki is the first non-communist to head the government of a Soviet bloc country.

"It's stupid. It's sad, and it's just so senseless," said one of them, a girl about 12 years old, shaking her head.

Uma-Massen has been stunned by Thursday's attack on German-born Heidi Hazell, 26. It was the fifth IRA attack on British military housing areas in West Germany since June, and the second murder.

It has been a summer of hell for British military personnel in West Germany.

The attack has left a palpable mixture of sadness and feeling of vulnerability among not only the 150 British military families here, but among the 11,000 German residents as well.

German residents say they cannot understand why a guerrilla war is being waged in their country for a cause that has nothing to do with them.

"Some people here feel threatened after this. This terrible incident, a civilian being killed, shows that anything can happen," said Renate Sommer, a German cashier at a store next to the residential driveway where Mrs Hazell, apparently mistaken for a British soldier, was shot while sitting in a parked car.

The West German federal prosecutors' office on Friday warned West Germans they could become accidental targets of the IRA.

Lezsek Balcerowicz, the Finance Minister, and Jacek Kuron, the candidate for the Labour Ministry, went before the welfare and health committees today.

Balcerowicz, an economist, outlined a programme to revive the economy that he had presented yesterday during hearings of other committees.

The programme calls for restructuring the tax system, controls on wage inflation, liberalisation of foreign trade rules and unification of the official and "commercial" exchange rates.

The committee was obliged to break off questioning so that Balcerowicz could attend a meeting with Mazowiecki, where he was expected to work with the prime minister on putting final touches on the programme to be presented Tuesday.

Asked about his political views, Balcerowicz said he had been a member of the Communist party until martial law was declared to suppress Solidarity in December 1981. He said he now was a member of the Warsaw chapter of the Solidarity Citizens Committee.

In a lengthy presentation, Kuron, a veteran opposition activist, told the committees he believed wages should be set by the market, but that to protect workers' minimum wage should be established.

He said the first task of the new government was to stop inflation, which has been put at 40 per cent in August.

Kuron said the transition to a market economy and implementation of measures to control inflation could lead to a dip in purchasing power, but the government would not abandon the disadvantaged.

Retired people, the unemployed and large families must receive protection during the economic transition, he said.

Soviets outfoxed US on Kabul

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10. (Agencies): The Bush administration seriously misread Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's intentions in Afghanistan after the withdrawal of the last Soviet troops there in February and did not think he intended to make a major military and political commitment to the survival of the Kabul regime, according to a senior administration official today.

The "mind-set" in the administration, the official told the Washington Post, had been that the Kabul regime lacked staying power and legitimacy and that Gorbachev would accept its rapid demise in the name of better relations with Washington and a policy of general retrenchment in Soviet involvement in Third World conflicts.

US officials have been particularly surprised by the amount of money the economically strained Soviets have been willing to spend to sustain Najibullah. US analysts have estimated that Soviet arms shipments have been worth \$200 million to \$300 million each month since January.

The senior US official conceded that misjudgment of Gorbachev's intentions was just one of a number by the administration and US intelligence community about events in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal that have led to an unexpected military and political stalemate.

Massive Soviet aid will ensure Afghanistan does not starve during the harsh winter despite mujahedeen rebels control over much of the countryside, a top government official said.

"You should be confident that the Soviet Union will not leave us in hunger," first Deputy Prime Minister Mahmood Baryalai told foreign reporters.

He said Kabul had stockpiled 35,000 tonnes of wheat from the Soviet Union to see the city through the winter.

"We have completed our food-stuff preparations for the winter," he said.

International relief agencies say Kabul needs to put away at least another 60,000 tonnes before the roads ice over.

Tens of thousands of people are leaving the capital every month as prices soar in markets ahead of winter and merchants and traders begin to hoard, aid workers say.

Baryalai said the government was distributing 300 tonnes of food a day to the 1.5 million ration card-holders in Kabul, which has a population of around two million.

"As for reserves, the danger of last winter we do not face this winter," Baryalai said.

Some 40 Aeroflot cargo planes fly into Kabul each day with 5,000 tonnes of goods from the Soviet Union.

Stuck

■ A senior government official said yesterday a 1,300-vehicle supply convoy was stuck outside the provincial capital of Kandahar because government troops were unable to secure the last stretch of road from rebel attacks.

Also yesterday, Yuli Vorontsov, Soviet first deputy foreign minister and ambassador to Kabul since late 1988, ended his tour. He paid a final courtesy call on Najibullah before leaving, the state news agency Bakhtar reported.

Vorontsov, absent for most of the summer, returned last Monday but had previously said he expected to leave.

He was ambassador during the final phase of the nine-year Soviet military intervention, which ended in February. No replacement has been named.

In Kabul, six people were killed and eight wounded by three rockets that hit a residential neighbourhood in an outlying district, the government spokesman said.

More than 300 people have died and 700 have been injured in almost daily rocket attacks since late June. The government blames them on the Pakistani-based rebels, who accuse the government of firing on its own civilians.

Baryalai confirmed that a large supply convoy was bogged down short of Kandahar by heavy fighting.

The spokesman said the planes did not bomb any targets in Bhamdoun in central Lebanon and Damour on the Lebanese coast but drew anti-aircraft fire from Muslim Druse militiamen and Palestinian commandos.

Earlier Christian radio stations reported an Israeli air raid at Bhamdoun.

'Tentative romance' may lead to hostage release

LONDON, Sept. 10. (Kuwa): Details were emerging of "behind-the-scenes" moves involving the US, Iran and Syria which sources in the Middle East regard as hopeful to the eventual release of Western hostages in Lebanon, according to a report here today.

Outgoing Iranian and radical Shiite

sources in Beirut, the Sunday Times newspaper believed that a "tentative romance" between Washington and Tehran might start bearing fruit as early as next month.

In addition, some Beirut circles have already begun referring to October as the "month of the hostages," although they were aware that nothing specific

was yet promised and that there could be setbacks.

The same sources said the Syrians have been holding talks in Damascus with the Americans on the hostage issue, with the Syrian side authorised to put a "collective position reflecting their own and Iranian demands," the paper maintained.

It also reckoned that relations between America and Iran, crucial to any hostage release, are likely to be warmed by last week's evacuation of American diplomats from east Beirut and Washington's rift with the Lebanese Christian leader, General Michel Aoun.

Meanwhile, the Sunday Times pointed out that there was an "eclipse of radical elements most opposed to releasing the hostages as part of a process or Iran reopening to the outside world."

In a related move, a report reaching here last night said that Iran might be considering the release of Roger

Cooper, the British businessman imprisoned in Tehran on spying charges.

But the New York Times in a report said, despite hints that Iran would like a deal for the release of American hostages, the Bush administration has concluded that Tehran's new leadership has not decided to act.

Hezbis and Amal bury the hatchet

NICOSIA, Sept. 10. (Agencies): Delegations from Lebanon's Shiite Muslim groups Hezbollah and Amal, reconciled after years of rivalry, met Iranian leaders in Tehran today, the Iranian News Agency Irna said.

It said President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani repeated Iran's support for Hezbollah (Party of God) in a meeting with its delegation, led by Hussein Musavi, Ibrahim Amin and Hussein Khalil.

The Amal delegation led by Ayoub Homayed met Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who the agency said expressed satisfaction at the rapprochement between the two groups.

The Amal delegation thanked Iran for "its sincere efforts in preventing further bloodshed" between the two groups, Irna said.

Intensify

In other developments Rafsanjani has named his interior minister as chairman of a new national security council that will intensify the campaign to stamp out drug abuse and smuggling, Iranian radio reported today.

The state radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Rafsanjani issued the decree appointing Hojjatolislam Abdallah Nouri as head of the powerful security council yesterday.

The council, formed by Rafsanjani following his July 28 election, will centralise control of all law-enforcement agencies in an apparent move to "escalate a crackdown on drug trafficking and corruption."

Rafsanjani's efforts are linked to similar anti-narcotics campaigns in neighbouring Pakistan and Turkey to combat the growth of heroin production and smuggling from the region, particularly Afghanistan.

Block

If successful, they will block a major drug-smuggling route into Western Europe that could have a profound effect on Rafsanjani's hopes to restoring political relations with the West to end a decade of isolation.

The US State Department estimated in a global narcotics review published last March that "opium production and heroin trafficking are deeply entrenched in the Southwest Asian nations of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan."

Protests mount in held areas

Nablus teenager shot dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 10. (Agencies): Soldiers fatally shot a 19-year-old Palestinian lunging to hurl a firebomb at them today in Nablus, the military command said. Six Arab protesters were wounded in ensuing clashes in the West Bank city.

Also in Nablus, a lone attacker stabbed to death a fellow Arab accused by Palestinians of working with Israeli intelligence, Arab reports said. The army confirmed the death but said the motive for the slaying was criminal, not alleged collaboration.

Police, meanwhile, questioned a Palestinian from the occupied territories suspected of stabbing an Israeli bus driver in an attempt to force a passenger bus off the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway and into a ravine.

Police killers busted: Iraq said today it had killed or captured all members of a gang that had been killing and kidnapping policemen in the past few days.

A statement from the director general of police said his men had recently killed or arrested "all members of a gang that had kidnapped and attacked policemen in Baghdad and Diyala provinces," the official Iraqi News Agency INA reported.

The gang had stolen some cars and used them to attack and kidnap policemen, citizens and their property," the statement said. It did not give any further details.

Eyewitnesses said security men in plainclothes had been stopping Volkswagen Passat saloon cars in Baghdad and searching for suspects and weapons. (Reuters)

Casualty figures: Mauritania claims that 1,906 Mauritians and Senegalese died during a bloody ethnic and racial dispute last spring, while Senegal puts the casualties at 360, daily Al Ahram newspaper says.

In today's edition, Al Ahram did not give a source for its figures. Al Ahram reporters accompanied President Hossni Mubarak during his mediation visits to both African countries earlier this week.

Neither country has given an official estimate of the victims killed after a border dispute spawned violence in the capitals of each country directed at nationals of the other.

It said the Senegalese said that 60 Mauritians were killed in Senegal and 300 Senegalese killed in Mauritania. (AP)

Israeli satellites: The Israeli Aircraft Agency (IAI) is busy constructing two space satellites, it was reported here today.

According to the "Air et Cosmos" science magazine, the IAI is developing the "Amos" geostationary satellite for communications and another for meteorology and navigation services.

The magazine said that the IAI has entered a co-operation programme with South Africa for the development of satellites.

It recalled that the IAI manufactured the first Israeli satellite, Ofet-1, a 156-kilogramme orbiter that was launched into space in Sept. 1983.

The Ofet-1 was launched by an Israeli rocket, Shavit of Palmachim, and was followed by the control centre also developed by IAI. (Kuwa)

Garang turns down: Leader of the south Sudan rebels, better known as the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), John Garang has refused an invitation by head of the Sudanese National Salvation Council General Omar Hassan Al Bashir to take part in a national peace dialogue in Khartoum, Radio Wadi Al Neil reported today.

Reports affirmed that Garang will not go to Khartoum as long as the military council does not provide the appropriate atmosphere to hold such a meeting.

Gen Al Bashir yesterday had opened the month-long peace conference aimed at ending a 6-year-old civil war in south Sudan.

All Bashir had said in his opening address that he was ready to provide security measures needed to guarantee Garang's safety while attending the conference, renewing his invitation to the rebel leader. (Kuwa)

Soviet visits: A leading Soviet author and parliamentarian arrived in Israel yesterday for 10-day visit despite the lack of diplomatic relations between his country and Israel.

Chingiz Aitmatov, a member of the Supreme Soviet, is scheduled to meet Israeli leaders including President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Itzhak Shamir and Finance Minister Shimon Peres, during his 10-day visit.

Aitmatov, an award-winning Soviet author, is visiting as a guest of the Israeli Writers Association. He is scheduled to meet with Israeli intellectuals, but hinted that his visit may have political significance.

Ethiopian war 'ending'

Rebels defeat Ethiopians

NAIROBI, Sept. 10. (Reuters): Rebel groups in northern Ethiopia said today they had extended the area under their control after halting an Ethiopian government offensive and wiping out an elite airborne division.

The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), linking the Tigray People's Liberation Front and the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, said fighting began on Aug. 29, when government forces attacked rebel-held areas.

An EPRDF communiqué telecast from Khartoum said the rebels had wiped out Ethiopia's 605 Army Corps and the 3rd Revolutionary Front-line Command.

The 102nd Airborne Division, which played a key role last May in crushing an attempted military coup against Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam, was among the units destroyed, it added.

The 102nd Airborne Division had been moved from Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, to take part in the offensive. "It was the government's most elite force, known for its loyalty to the regime," the communiqué said.

The EPRDF said government forces had launched the offensive to crush the rebels. Four government divisions deployed between Maychew and Kobo had been wiped out, and tanks, guns, vehicles and millions of rounds of ammunition captured.

"The heavily-entrenched garrison towns of Alamat and Kobo are under EPRDF control," the communiqué said.

that the sides will either take joint action or unilateral action (to declare ceasefire) to demonstrate good faith and confidence-building measures," he said.

"I have been informed that everyday throughout Ethiopia all the churches—the Coptic and Catholic and Protestant churches—are ringing their bells for 15 minutes just to let the leaders throughout the region know that the people themselves want peace."

There is a great concentration of awareness, hope and prayers in that region that we can be successful here," he added.

The EPLF, backed by several Arab nations chiefly Iraq and

Syria, want the independence of Eritrea, once a colony of Italy and strategically located along the Red Sea, Ethiopia's main outlet to the outside world.

The province was federated with Ethiopia in 1952 but 10 years later legislators in Eritrea dissolved the union in favour of central government rule.

Ethiopia has stalled at the idea of losing its only access to the Red Sea. The country has received about \$500 million a year in military aid from the Soviet Union to fight the rebels, but diplomatic sources say the Soviets are pressuring Ethiopia to end the seemingly unwinnable war.

Muslims? yes: party leanings? no

JEDDAH, Sept. 10. (AP): Sudan's First Lady, Fatima Khaled Ahmed Al Bashir, says her family is devout as the average Sudanese Muslim family but was not affiliated to any Islamic political party.

"We are a Sudanese family that is totally committed to the Islamic faith and its benign teachings, and my husband is the most religious among us," said Mrs Bashir to the Saudi Arabian newspaper Asharq Al Awsat. It was her first press interview since seized her husband, Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir, seized power in Khartoum, June 30.

"Despite our behaviour and our dress, some try to stamp us with Islamic politics leanings, but this is a natural devoutness which characterises the majority of the Sudanese nation," she said.

The front said the attack marked its seventh anniversary and was also to avenge Israel's abduction of Hezbollah cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid on July 28.

The front, which was previously mounted joint operations with the PFLP, said in a statement it also launched attacks against positions inside Israel's south Lebanon security zone. It vowed "to continue fighting until the last Israeli soldier is expelled from our land."

Security sources in occupied Jerusalem said one Israeli soldier and at least one Arab were killed. They said a wounded commando escaped back into Lebanon during the fighting last night in the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights.

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Earlier, a PFLP spokesman said its commandos clashed with an Israeli patrol in the area of Mount Hermon near the Lebanon-Israel border. According to first reports, one commando

was killed and "the enemy suffered several losses in the firefight."

The Damascus-based PFLP, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, backs PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's peace drive but also believes in armed attacks against Israel. It said it fired rockets from Jordan that slammed into Israel on Thursday.

Yesterday's border clash was the eighth this year. Hours earlier Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets slammed into the border security zone and UN-patrolled areas immediately to the north. No casualties were reported.

On August 9, five Israeli soldiers were wounded

when a pro-Iranian suicide bomber rammed his vehicle into an Israeli Army convoy in south Lebanon in revenge for Obeid's abduction.

Israeli warplanes staged mock attacks on two towns in Lebanon a police spokesman said today.

The spokesman said the planes did not bomb any targets in Bhamdoun in central Lebanon and Damour on the Lebanese coast but drew anti-aircraft fire from Muslim Druse militiamen and Palestinian commandos.

Earlier Christian radio stations reported an Israeli air raid at Bhamdoun.

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ARAB TIMES GRAND



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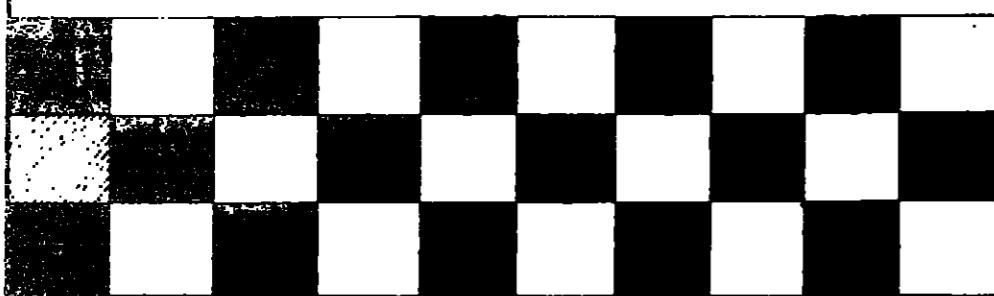
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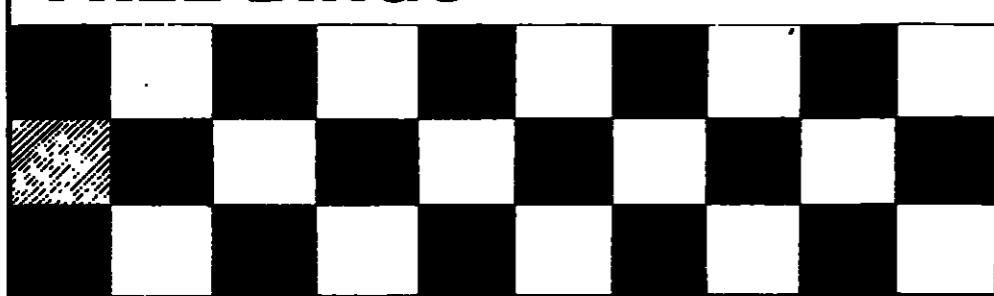
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1. There is no entry fee, but all entries must be on separate ARAB TIMES forms and only entries from one competitor may be enclosed in the same envelope.
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3. All the claimants' entries will be opened at 1 pm on the day claims are made and depending upon the correct clue and all numbers checked being correct, the last number checked off by the claimant will be the criterion for awarding the prizes according to the priority of the number published on that day from left to the right.
4. If there is a tie, the winning name will be drawn from a hat.
5. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Employees of the Arab Times and Al-Seyassah Organisation and their families are not eligible to enter.
6. No responsibility can be accepted for delayed or missing entries, or altered or mutilated entries although it is prior to the competition starting date. Envelopes without names, initials on the back, initials in front, and those received after the closing time detailed on this form will be disqualified.
7. No numbers at any time will be told over the telephone.
8. Claims must be on the same day's numbers. Claims with previous day's numbers will not be entertained.

How to claim

EVERY DAY four numbers will appear on Page Two. A number may be repeated. If this happens, continue with the rest of the numbers. Check off on your copy card the number or numbers which coincide with your selected numbers. Do this every day.

Please make a note of the last number you checked off, i.e. the one that completes your claim. Claimants will be asked to give this number which will decide the allocation of prizes.

When you have a claim, phone: 4813566/272 or 287 between 12 noon and 1 pm. Claims after 1 pm WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You or anyone telephoning for you must have your copy card when the claim is made.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

Bingo.

Arab Times.

P.O. Box 2270.

13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

Kuwait envisages limited food security

Wheat experiment successful

LONDON, Sept 10, (Kuna): Kuwait's five-year development plan includes numerous agricultural projects and allows for greater contribution of the agricultural sector to the national economy, according to head of Kuwait's Union of Agricultural Societies.

Barrak Nasser Al Noun, in an interview with the London-based *Al Sharq Al Awsat* newspaper, said the 1990-95 development plan also envisages a reasonable degree of food security from local resources.

Commenting on plans to draw water from Iraq's Shatt Al Arab waterway to irrigate wider tracts of land in Kuwait for agricultural purposes, the official said the project would help solve much of the country's cultivation problems.

He indicated that the experiment of growing wheat, now in its first year of implementation upon instructions of HH the Amir of Kuwait, has achieved tremendous results, noting that agriculture, which until 1980 had represented only

marginal percentage of the national gross product, is now developing as result of state efforts and attention to this sector.

Co-operatives

The union, according to its chairman, comprises four agricultural co-operatives with a membership of more than 400 people engaged in agricultural and animal husbandry and rearing activities.

Explaining efforts exerted by the union to solve marketing problems of local

produce, Al Noun said that a number of distribution outlets had been established and indicated that the union is buying from producers at a fair and equitable price while offering the produce to consumers at reasonable prices.

He concluded that the union is an active participant of the Arab Union of Cooperatives and has contributed to the amendment of the union's by-laws during its recent conference in Cairo.

Passenger movement up 10pc in August

KUWAIT, Sept 10, (Kuna): The Civil Aviation Administration yesterday said that total passengers who left through Kuwait airport during last month reached 134,845 people, up by 10 per cent than in August last year.

A statistical report by the administration's Air Transport Department, released today, showed that incoming passengers totalled 211,756 people, a drop of seven per cent as compared to the same month last year.

According to the report, regular and extra flights had fallen by two per cent compared to the month of August last year.

Comparing last month's figures to the corresponding period last year, the report indicated an overall drop in the total of arriving passengers by seven per cent.

It attributed the drop to the timing of Eid Al Adha (or sacrifice feast), which this year fell in early July, and the return of most vacationers by the end of July. Another reason cited by the administration is the continued suspension of flights by Lebanon's national carrier, the Middle East Airlines.

Regarding the drop in the number of flights compared to last year, the report said this can be explained by the step taken by some airline companies to operate jumbo-sized planes instead of medium-sized or small craft in transporting passengers.

On being deported, the name and other particulars of the deportees are sent to all concerned departments to be added to the list of persons who are prohibited from entering the country. Particulars are also sent to the Criminal Evidence Department to prevent him from obtaining a certificate of good conduct.

He added that deportation is also applied to some persons who are sentenced by traffic courts. Drivers who have committed several major traffic violations fall in this category, the official said.

Vehicle testing centres

Privatisation disadvantageous, say residents

THE Ministry of Interior has recently issued a decision transferring the responsibility of technical automobiles testing to privately owned workshops under the supervision of the General Traffic Department in order to lighten pressure on technical testing centres attached to the ministry. An official at the Ministry of Interior indicated that the new decision will enhance the process of ensuring the safety of automobiles and security conditions to preserve human life and to decrease the rate of traffic accidents in the country.

In a survey conducted by a local daily among residents and citizens, those in favour agreed on the importance and advantage of the new ministry decision on the condition that the technical testing of automobiles should remain under the supervision of the General Traffic Department to prevent any personal influences "Wasta". Meanwhile, those who were not in favour commented that the new decision will have many disadvantages when implemented.

Haza Al Shemari did not support the new decision saying that he prefers conducting technical tests on his car inside the General Traffic Department as usual because workshops could tend to be overzealous in finding faults.

On the other hand, Fahd Al Shemari said that transferring technical inspection to some private owned car garages will lighten up the pressure which exists at centres attached to the ministry and will speed up the operation.

He indicated that this new decision will encourage the private sector in the country.

Both Sameeh Barakat and Ali Nareshah

were in favour of transferring technical automobiles inspection to specialised mechanical workshops to enable residents to achieve full benefit from the technical inspection operation for their cars. They said that such a step will make residents feel more comfortable towards the safety of their cars. They said that the decision came in time to lighten up pressure existing at the General Traffic Department centres.

Mohammed Naji Al Dokhi said that transferring technical inspection to private owned workshops may lead to traffic jams when more than three cars are to be inspected at one garage. He did not support the new decision due to the fact that it will invoke misuse of this duty because of illegal gain.

Mohammed Al Rasheed believes that increasing the number of employees at General Traffic Department technical testing centres and finding new areas to build centres will resolve the problem. He said some private owned garages may use the new decision for their own financial benefit.

Health test for students

SCHOOL health centres have conducted medical examinations on 45,000 to 50,000 fresh pupils this year, according to Dr Hussein Al Mumin, chairman of the school health department at the Public Health Ministry.

He went on to state that the health department has begun its preparations to receive pupils who are expected to be admitted in the schools from January every year and the department's centres will receive all pupils who will join kindergartens and private or public primary schools.

There are 20 specialised centres to examine pupils in different areas at which health inspectors conduct safety inspection of school environment beginning from the very first day of the scholastic year. Inspections are carried out in co-operation with school activities department of the Ministry of Education.

School supplies expensive: parents Rush on at markets

ON the occasion of the beginning of the new academic year, local markets were congested with parents and students seeking school supplies. Merchants, generally seize this opportunity by increasing prices of supplies and thereby exploit all those who cannot do without these essential school requirements.

To highlight this issue, a local daily toured the market and interviewed a number of people.

Ahmed Amer, said that he has four daughters and when he tried to purchase the necessary school supplies, he was surprised to learn that there was wide disparity in the prices from one place to another. He added that overall, the prices were very high and called for a drastic reduction in prices.

Faiza Ennab, said that preparation for the school year is inevitable. She complained that prices were expensive particularly for school bags.

Ahmed Hussein, said that every new school season constitutes an opportunity for visiting the markets and getting familiar with new educational instruments. He pointed that some new educational instruments had drawn his attention as these items were not available in the previous years. He said prices were reasonable and were similar to that of the past year.

Salem Al Qallaf said, though the market had introduced new products this year, prices were exorbitant. He called on authorities to monitor prices and protect citizens from being illegally exploited. He complained that some people were always seeking fast profits and the victim is always the wage earners of families.

Abdullah Mohammed, complained of the disparity in prices from one bookshop to another or from supermarket to another. He cited the example of a school bag being sold at KD2 and the same kind of bag being sold at another shop at KD3. He added that the prices of some supplies were reasonable, but nothing was cheap this year.

A Kuwaiti lady identified as Umm Abdullah said that she had one child and she came to the market to purchase the necessary stationery and educational instruments for him. Though this year there were many new items introduced in the market, this was not reflected in educational instruments. Commenting on the prices prevailing in the market, she said prices are very high and no discount is offered. She clarified that the prices of stationery and educational instruments at the International Exhibition Ground in Mishref were very expensive compared to prices in the other bookshops.

A teacher at one kindergarten, Suad Radi said that she used to come to the market every year to purchase educational instruments for children. Unfortunately she found nothing new in the market this year, except that the prices were very high.

Legal Clinic

ADVICE FROM OUR KUWAITI LAWYER KHALID TAHER

If you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind, send your questions to Arab Times, Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer Khalid Tahir replies to readers' queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2770, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I HAVE been working in a private firm for the last five years. A year ago, my wife joined the same company. Recently, some people were made redundant; they may fire my wife. My salary is not enough to apply for a family visa. Under these circumstances, I would like to know if I can transfer her residence to my sponsorship. Will she have to leave the country if the company cancels her residence? Please advise. Is there any other alternative?

Madan D.R. YOU can apply to the Immigration Department to transfer her residence to a dependent visa, explaining all details of her case. If they reject the application, she will have to leave the country if the company cancels her residence. The only other alternative would be to find another employer for your wife.

MY colleagues and I have been working in a shop for the last two years. Recently, the owner sold the shop and we have a new employer. He has also changed the name of the company. Do we have to change our sponsorship to the name of the new company and owner?

M.G. YOU must change the name of the sponsor. Apply to the Immigration Department, along with the relevant documents from the company indicating the change of ownership and the name of the company, to amend the name of the sponsor and legalise your stay in the country.

ONE of my friends was recruited in India as a truck driver for a local transport company. He worked with the company for three years. The company's business was to transport sand from Saudi Arabia to Kuwait, and my friend drove one of the trucks on that route. On Aug 19, while on a trip to Saudi Arabia, my friend suffered a heart attack and died in Saudi Arabia. His body is still there.

1. Is it the company's responsibility to send his body back home?
2. Is his family eligible for any compensation? Can they receive it in India?
3. My friend had no relatives or friends, except me, here. How can I help his family to complete the formalities?

4. My friend kept some money with me. No one knows about that money. What are my moral and legal responsibilities?

Is it alright if I make a fixed deposit so that his wife and children get some monthly income?

M. Habibuddin

1. The company must try to send the body to his country, but cannot comment on the law in Saudi Arabia. But the company must try to repatriate the body according to the procedure in SA. You can seek the help of the Indian Embassy to follow the case; they will be able to take care of the matter in a better manner.

2. On compensation: Article 65 says that if the labour sustains an injury by reason (at work) and in the course of duty, he is entitled to compensation. In your case, the person died of natural causes, heart attack, and not due to the work; therefore, there is no compensation. But the company must pay all the benefits.

3. Any member of the driver's family can claim the benefits; if you want to complete the formalities, you must get a power of attorney to act on their behalf to collect his dues; using the same document, you can hire a lawyer, to file a case, if there is any case.

4. This money automatically goes to his family, and must be paid to them. Even if he had kept it secret, it must be paid immediately, to take care of their financial needs, to organise their affairs, till the rest of the money is sent to them.

MY brother who was working in one of the ministries, could not return to Kuwait within the leave period and also within six months due to some personal problems. He worked for that ministry for seven years.

I would like to know the way to obtain his services for the period he worked on his behalf.

Mohan Lal

YOU can get the power of attorney from your brother which states you can take the money on his behalf and then get it stamped at the Kuwaiti embassy in your country along with the stamp of your country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Afterwards you can go with this certificate to that ministry in Kuwait and submit it.

SINCE the last nine years, I have been working in a private company. Although the management appointed me as tailor, I have been assigned on other field work without objection from my side. But when I returned from my annual holiday one week ago, I was shown a memo mentioning 25 per cent decrease of the salary without any reason.

I rejected the memo until I received my service payment and other benefits of the past working period, and also refused to argue about it. Now I do not want to continue working and at the same time the company does not want to terminate my services but is forcing me to resign.

In these circumstances, is it possible to get my complete settlement if I submit my resignation? Can I get help from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour if I do not get my full indemnity?

Bava

YOUR company is breaking the law by decreasing your salary without acceptance by the employee. The Labour Law says that a person is entitled to half-a-month's salary for each year for the first five years of service and one month's wages for each year after five years. If you resign you'll get only half the benefit, that is 2.5 days counted from the original salary not from the decreased one.



Also you are not eligible for the notice period compensation. However you may have to give compensation to the company if you discontinue your services without working during the notice period. At least 15 days notice must be given on resigning from your job.

If you do not get your due indemnity you have the right to approach the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1978 on visa no. 20. In 1980 I transferred my visa to no. 18 and worked with a company for more than six years. The company closed down. I am now working for a semi-government firm and wish to transfer my residence but I was told that I cannot transfer from a private company to the government. Is it true, what is the other alternative?

F. Fernandes

YOU can go to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to check whether they agree or refuse. If your request at the ministry is rejected and you want to work with that company, you should make sure that the company provides you with the visa no. 18, in order to cancel your current permit with the semi-government establishment. Leave the country and come back to Kuwait with the new visa.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1982, working in a private company. Then I joined a ministry since a period of four and half years. My residence permit is still valid for another two and half years. I wish to resign then join a private company.

I want to know about the possibility of transferring my visa to no. 18. The new company is ready to provide me with the visa.

Aziz Khan

According to what you mentioned above, you can go to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to check on the transfer. It is up to the ministry to agree or refuse. If they do not agree you can cancel your visa and come back with new visa no. 18. But prior to that, make sure that the company is willing to provide you with visa no. 18.

I CAME to Kuwait on visa no. 18. I have resigned from my job. I want to join another Kuwaiti sponsor as a driver. Can I change my visa no. 18 to visa no. 20 without leaving Kuwait.

N. Danell

YOU have to go to the Immigration Department to change from visa no. 18 to no. 20. But if there is any problem, you can cancel your visa no. 18, leave the country and come back with new visa no. 20.

★ ★ ★

I AM working in Kuwait on visa no. 18, since 1988, on a twelve-hour shift. The company did not give me and the other 14 employees (six of them are only holders of visa no. 18, while the rest on visa no. 20) the four-hour overtime payment. In addition to that we do not have a work contract and other benefits such as sick leave. We are working in the basement of a house, where there are forty heavy duty machines and one printing press.

I want to know the following:

Do I have the right to take money for the remaining four hours as overtime without proof and other sick leave benefits?

Have I the right to ask for a work contract since my visa will expire on April 1990?

Is there a law that the worker will be deported if he fights for his rights?

Is the company authorised by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to employ us to work in a basement and those holding visa no. 20 to work in a garment factory?

If this company is found violating the rules, can the authorities give us a chance to find another job?

Name withheld

YOU have the right to ask for the overtime payment (according to Kuwaiti Labour Law Article 32/1964, or according to your work contract, if it was mentioned in it). But in your case you do not have a work contract so you can prove with witnesses that you have worked overtime.

There is no need in your case to ask for a work contract because the Kuwaiti labour law is a contract organising the relation between you and your employer.

There is no such thing in the law that employees will be deported if they fight for their rights.

Holders of visa no. 20 are not allowed to work like those holders of visa no. 18, which means the company is violating immigration rules. It is up to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to agree or refuse permission for change of job.

I CAME to Kuwait on visa no. 18 in 1984. Since that time I have transferred my work permit three times. My permit was last transferred before the new law was implemented, before March, 1989.

Am I eligible for a transfer though I have not completed three years?

Must the employer give the ticket if he terminates the services of the employee?

What if an employee resigns and wants to go back home, must he pay for his own ticket or should the employer pay?

M. Fernandes

FIRST, if the worker has a work contract that mentions the employer should pay for the ticket, then there is no problem. If there was no contract and your services were terminated then the employer shall be held liable to bear his/her repatriation expenses. The labour is held liable to the expenses if he resigns in a manner contrary to the conditions stipulated in his/her contract or to the provision of the labour law.

According to new labour regulations article 20-clause 2.3; if the labourer refuses to continue the employer's service during the period of contract, without having any legal right to do so, the labourer shall be held liable to bear his/her repatriation expenses. The labourer is held liable to the expenses if he resigns in a manner contrary to the conditions stipulated in his/her contract or to the provision of the labour law.

If a monthly paid employee works on a paid holiday, and he receives KD10 per day, what is the amount due to him for this particular day?

M.T. Castro

IF he works overtime of his own accord then the employer is not obliged to pay him overtime. If he specifically was asked by the employer to do it then he is eligible for overtime payment at 1-1/4 times the normal rate for work on ordinary days, 1-1/2 times the rate for the work on Fridays, and double the rate for work on official holidays.

I'M a Filipina working as a domestic helper. I want to know whether domestic helpers are covered by the Kuwaiti Labour Law? If they have a complaint should they go to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour or to court?

F. Anol

IT is mentioned in the Kuwaiti Labour Law No. 38/1964 Article 2, that domestic helpers are not covered by the law, since they are not working with the government or private sector but they are sponsored on a contractual basis with individuals or families in Kuwait.

Any maid who has a complaint or gets ready to go to the nearest police station.

But in case she does not get her benefits under her contract after she and her sponsor do not reach a compromise then she can file a case in court.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1979, as a domestic helper. In 1988 I got a job in a private company with a KD 140 monthly salary. My wife and two sons refused to come to Kuwait due to my wife's illness. Everyday I face trouble with housework and cooking. Subsequently, I go late to my office.

I want to marry another woman in Kuwait holding visa no. 18, who has been divorced by her husband in India. Can I marry this woman in Kuwait, as my wife agrees that I take a second wife? Can I know about the rules regarding my case?

B. Seerrama Marthy

YOU have not mentioned your religion, if you are a Muslim then you should go to the Palace of Justice and register your marriage. If you belong to another religion then you will have to find out the procedure applicable elsewhere.

IS it legal or illegal to work part-time either in the government or private sector?

Even, if there is such a law that quotes part-time jobs as illegal, why are people employed as part timers, apart from their regular employment. There is no doubt that most of the government employees are holding part-time jobs.

Falas Al Kuleesy Kalas

IT is illegal to work part-time for private sector employees. Those working in the public sector are not allowed to work part-time unless permission is received from the respective ministry.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1987 on visa no. 18. I worked with the company for six months, but the company did not provide me with accommodation and did not pay my salary. I stopped working and filed a case at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. Later on, it was transferred to court.

Since then, for more than one year and nine months, no decision has been taken. I'm still in Kuwait without residence. I have no friends who can provide my house rent and food. Is it possible for me to work in any other company at a time like this?

Please advise me on how to solve this problem?

N.M. Deb

YOU have no right to work as long as your visa has expired and your case is in the court.

But you can ask for compensation for the delay while your case is in progress.

I WORKED in a company from 22nd April, 1978. My services were terminated on 8th July, 1989.

What benefits am I entitled to, as final settlement under the new law?

I was getting sales commission for a period of 5 months (1984, Oct, Nov, Dec-1985 Feb and Jan). Would this amount also be added along with my termination benefits?

M. George

THE Labour Law says that a person is entitled to half a month's salary for each year of the first five years of service and one month's wages for each year after five years. However commission is not considered.

IN the company I am working at, we are paid salary and overtime separately.

Assuming my monthly salary is KD150 and I have to be paid for overtime for one official holiday in a particular month. The daily rate comes to KD5.778.

Assuming in that month I was not absent on any working day, I am paid KD150, through the salary sheet. Through the overtime sheet, how much overtime will I get? KD5.770 (i.e. single day's payment) KD11.540 (i.e. double day's payment)

The law states that a fifteen-day-wage should be paid for every year's service for the first five years, for example, salary is KD150 per month besides fifteen days are to be paid as follows: KD150 x 15 days divided by 26 days = or KD150 x 15 days divided by 30 days, which of the above two methods is correct?

Anonymous

FIRST, you will get overtime KD5.770 single day's payment. The fifteen day wage to be paid for every year's service in your case is KD150 x 15, divided by 26.

Cabinet reviews development plan

Kuwait-Egypt agreements discussed

KUWAIT, Sept 10 (Kuna): The weekly cabinet session held today, under the chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, listened to ministers' reports on their activities in the past week.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed told reporters that in the light of the Amiri guidelines tabled during HH's meeting with the cabinet yesterday, the cabinet today completed discussing

aspects of the Amir's visit to Cairo.

Rashed said that the Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi explained details of the agreements, work programmes and projects concluded between Egypt and Kuwait for co-operation in various economic, commercial, scientific, cultural, technical, educational and labour areas.

The agreements target co-ordinating and organizing the already existing co-operation

between the two countries to achieve the aspired-for results and goals, the minister elaborated.

Co-operation

Minister of Trade and Industry Faisal Abdul Razzak Al Khaled, on his part, briefed the cabinet on results of the fifth session for the Organisation of Islamic Conference's standing committee for economic and commercial co-operation.

The cabinet also reviewed a draft decree on the formation of a Municipal Affairs Committee.

Rashed said.

He added that Minister of Electricity and Water Dr Hamoud Abdulrahman Al Rqobah read out results of the first conference for the Islamic energy ministers that was also held recently in Turkey and aimed at exchanging expertise and data for the member countries' common benefit, in addition to fostering technical co-operation.

The cabinet also reviewed a draft decree on the formation of a Municipal Affairs Committee.

Paci introduces new info service

Access to civil ID details

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff



A NEW computerised inquiry service that allows the public to inquire about their Civil IDs through the telephone, was introduced yesterday by the Public Authority for Civil Information (Paci).

Sheikh Jaber, in an interview published in the latest issue of the Cyprus-based Al Sabah magazine, said Kuwait is for cooperation with all countries on the basis of mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Kuwait, he said, supports the

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE man who listens to reason is lost. Reason enslaves all whose minds are not strong enough to master her — George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born playwright (1856-1950).

Chilling fear in Sri Lanka

Hundreds flee homes

NIGHTFALL in the small Sri Lankan fishing village of Wadduwa brings the sounds of gunshots, dogs barking and the soft footsteps of men — troops and rebels — stalking each other between the houses.

Morning reveals the corpses, some charred and burning on the narrow streets.

Villagers who have fled the once-tranquil settlement 20 miles (30 km) south of the capital Colombo describe an atmosphere of terror, chilling even by the standards of a country that is wrapped in fear.

"People are so scared, they are even afraid to say 'Hello'. You don't know who you are talking to anymore," said a hospital worker who left Wadduwa with her three sons last week to live with her sister in Colombo.

"It's as if ghosts are walking around after dark. We heard people in our garden at night. We thought they were coming to kill us."

Hundreds of families have fled their homes to escape killings and counter-killings as soldiers battle leftwing rebels trying to overthrow the government.

Some 4,000 people have been forced to find safety in the jungles of the Indian Ocean island, according to Colombo-based human rights lawyers.

The hospital worker, who said she was afraid to be named, was more fortunate. Her sister and brother-in-law offered her sanctuary in their Colombo home, already packed with other family members from Wadduwa.

Her parents remain in the village.

The sister described a life of constant terror in Wadduwa where fearful parents hide their children from the Army, vigilante squads and rebels.

"Vehicles without number plates took boys away. Some did not return," she said.

She said the villagers themselves were joining in the carnage, killing each other to settle old scores.

"Nobody knows who is doing the killing any more."

She recounted an incident two months ago: "Dogs were barking, so my neighbours opened their door and shone their torches. They saw the soldiers hiding in trees."

The hospital worker added: "I could not sleep at night. We did not dare to put the light or television on. Even during the day we kept our sons inside the house."

"Last week a dog was shot for barking at night. Now nobody keeps their dogs outside."

Only last year, evening life in Wadduwa was happy and unhurried. Children played in the streets, or dangled fishing lines into the water. Families sat together watching television or did their daily shopping.

"Today we close all our windows and doors at night and just wait for morning," the sister said.

Rebels are active in all parts of Sri Lanka inhabited by the country's majority Sinhalese community but the area around Wadduwa has become one of the most frightening, according to Colombo residents.

Two weeks ago, 14 people were massacred near the village in apparent retaliation for the killing of a woman soldier and her family by rebels.

"We have no mental peace. How can you read or watch television when you find bodies burning outside your house in the morning?" asked the hospital worker.

When Sri Lanka's night curfew begins, Colombo's young and wealthy start to boogie and play the fruit machines.

"The curfew has been a godsend," said James Lindley, who runs the Ritz Casino, one of three operating in the city's luxury hotels.

"People come at the same time as before. But now they have to stay until four in the morning."

The government of the palm-fringed Indian Ocean island is in a desperate battle to crush leftwing rebels trying to overthrow it by calling strikes and killing soldiers and police. The death toll is mounting daily.

The government introduced a six-hour curfew in July as part of a nation-wide security operation which has netted thousands of rebel suspects.

But while Sri Lanka's poor live in fear of their lives, the more fortunate seem determined to enjoy themselves regardless.

"Profits have been 15 per cent up in the casino during the last five weeks," said Lindley, who has also run casinos in two of the world's other trouble spots — Iran and Lebanon.

"When people are nervous, they gamble to escape."

Most of the punters are local and expatriate Colombo residents, he said. Tourist spending on fruit machines, roulette and electronic card games was relatively small.

"A regular punter will be given a free room in the hotel," said Lindley. "He is an investment."

Turmoil in the capital's other hotel casinos is also high, according to local businessmen.

A mile down the road from the Ritz in the Hilton Hotel's Blue Elephant Nightclub, a favourite with the city's youth, weekend activity is similarly frenzied.

"My country is going to the dogs," said a hostess with the state airline, Air Lanka. "But what to do? You have to enjoy yourselves."

The Hilton's general manager, Gamin Fernando, said bar takings at the club had held up during the curfew although the number of dancers was slightly down.

"When they come in at 10 o'clock, we have a captive audience until four. So, of course, they consume more." (Colombo — Reuters)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1499 — French forces take Milan, Italy, with little opposition.
1557 — Pope Paul IV makes peace with Philip II of Spain.
1697 — Prince Eugene of Savoy defeats Turks at Zenta, Hungary.
1814 — US forces capture British flotilla on Lake Champlain in America.
1830 — Republic of Ecuador is established and granted constitution by Colombia under which it is to be part of Confederation of Colombia.
1840 — British bombard Beirut to force Mehmet Ali to submit.
1860 — Victor Emmanuel, king of Sardinia, invades papal states.
1922 — British mandate in Palestine is proclaimed while Arabs declare day of mourning.
1945 — Japan's former Premier Hideki Tojo attempts suicide, but recovers and later is executed as war criminal.
1962 — Soviet Union warns that any US attack on Cuban or on Soviet ships bound for Cuba would mean war.
1967 — Indian and Chinese troops clash in border area in the Himalayas.
1973 — Chile's President Salvador Allende Gossens is deposed in military coup, and military officials say he committed suicide rather than surrender.
1978 — At least 20 dead and 100 wounded are reported in gun battles between Nicaraguan troops and rebels intent on toppling President Anastasio Somoza.
1987 — Chad and Libya announce truce in territorial war after eight months of fighting.

'Stop blind support'

Israel's brutal repression raises questions

"WE here in the United States are trying to convey to the American-Jewish community that American Jews can no longer go on blindly supporting Israel regardless of whether it is wrong or right. What we are saying is that we are not serving Israel's interests by continuing in this line. We have to come up with new ideas and new approaches." These words, spoken by an eminent American Jew, Dr Alon Ben-Meir, reflects a new, forward-looking attitude that is beginning to emerge from a growing number of Jewish-American thinkers.

The involvement of American Jews, and by extension the US government, in Israeli affairs cannot be underestimated. The Jewish-American community has provided Israel with unflagging political and economic support for decades. Amounts raised by private groups alone are estimated at more than \$3 billion annually, and observers outside the Jewish-American community have often criticised what appears as visceral, blind and unquestioning support for the Jewish state. Criticism from within the community has rarely been heard.

But times are changing. Israel's brutal repression of the Palestinian uprising — intifada — has raised some fundamental questions about Israel's 21-year-old occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, home to some 2.5 million Palestinians. Over 500 Palestinians have died since the uprising began in December 1987; a third of the victims have been children. The Israel that could do no wrong is suddenly seen in a different light, and American-Jewish intellectuals have begun to reassess their thinking about the conflict and how it can be brought to an end.

Ben-Meir, a doctor of philosophy and political science, is one of the pioneers of this new thinking and now heads "Americans for Peace in the Middle East," a recently formed group of Jewish academics and politicians whose aim is to promote ideas on the most realistic ways of attaining peace. But "academics are more inclined than politicians to think that the Palestinians have a right to an entity of their own," the 52-year-old Ben-Meir pointed out.

Born in Baghdad, Ben-Meir, who speaks fluent Arabic as well as Hebrew, moved with his family to Israel shortly after its creation in 1948. He grew up there, served in the Israeli Army and studied journalism at Tel Aviv University. As a young graduate, he went on to Oxford University in England to read philosophy before moving to Washington, DC, where he earned a doctoral degree in political science. In his doctoral thesis, titled "The Middle East: Imperatives and Choices" and published in 1975, Ben-Meir outlined some of the major points that, he says, to this day constitute what he believes to be a realistic approach to solving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

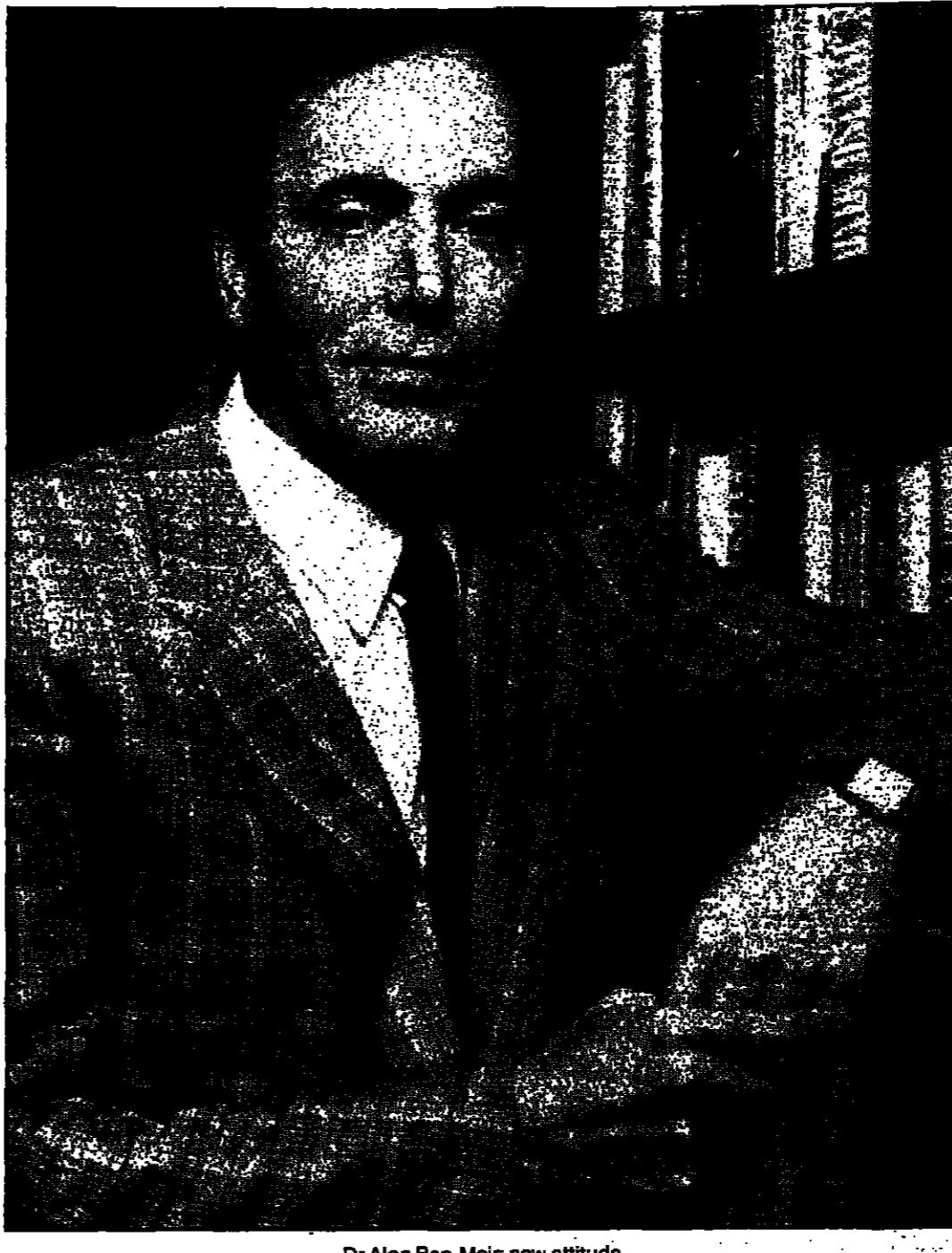
Speaking during a recent interview in this New York office, Ben-Meir pointed to what he called "irrevocable factors on the ground," meaning realities that can no longer be ignored and that, he believes, must be defined, accepted and "institutionalised."

There is no doubt in Ben-Meir's mind that the Palestinians have a right to a state of their own (though he avoids the loaded term "state" and prefers the vaguer word "entity") and that, sooner or later, like it or not, this will be established as the only way of achieving peace. "Israel cannot be eliminated, nor can the Palestinians, that is the reality. Regardless of whether Israel has the right to the West Bank from a historical perspective, Zionism will have to settle for something less. Both sides will have to be satisfied with what there is: Israel of the part of the biblical land, and the Palestinians with part of Palestine," he says bluntly.

One of the "realities" that Israel will have to face once the Palestinian "entity" has been established is the fact that it will continue to be surrounded by Palestinians — in neighbouring Jordan, on the West Bank, in the Gaza Strip, in Lebanon. Ben-Meir believes that although many Palestinians have aspirations to repatriation, the population distribution is not likely to change drastically. "There will always be a Palestinian minority in Israel and there will always be a minority of Jews living in the Palestinian entity," he said.

This is linked in Ben-Meir's mind to another of those realities that will have to be confronted if the peace process is to succeed: the question of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. "Israel will not relinquish the settlements; neither a Labour nor a Likud government could do that," he said referring to the two main political parties in Israel. He added that the Palestinians will simply have to consider the Jews living in those settlements as part of the minority that will continue to live in their midst.

To Ben-Meir, Palestinian-Israeli interaction is the cornerstone on which co-existence between the two peoples will be built. "No matter how peace is established, the socio-economic inter-relationship between Palestinians and Israelis will have to be maintained. Above all, if there is a commitment to actually live in peace, a long period of transition will be needed not only as a confidence-building phase



Dr Alon Ben-Meir: new attitude

but also to build necessary safety valves. The interests of both sides in terms of economics and security are so profound, so important, that it would be in neither side's interest to (endanger) the relationship. If peace is the underlying factor, there

will be nothing to stop the mechanism of co-existence. After all, Arab and Jews lived together for thousands of years in peace; it will have to happen again," he stressed.

Ben-Meir believes that there is a solution to another problem that has plagued would-be peacemakers for years: the status of Jerusalem. Both sides lay claim to the holy city in a bitter rivalry heavy with religious, emotional, symbolic and political meaning. "You won't find many Jews, be they from the left, right or centre, who would be prepared to give up Jerusalem. But there is a solution that could satisfy the Palestinians: they could have their own borough, with complete independence in running their own religious and cultural affairs," he said.

The American scholar says that another essential key to the establishment of peace lies in the hands of Syria, whose part in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is, he notes, often neglected or underestimated. Syria is an important player in the regional conflict because part of its territory — the Golan Heights — was annexed by Israel during the six-day war in 1967, along with the West Bank in Gaza; because of its influence over several factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; and because of its presence in Lebanon. Ben-Meir, is aware that there can be no peace without Syria. "Syria is in a position to negotiate with Israel. It is not the PLO does represent the Palestinian people and there will be no solution until Israel recognises these facts formally and officially," he said.

In Ben-Meir's analysis, the Israelis therefore have some way to go toward meeting the Palestinians before any major move in the direction of peace can be made. At the same time, Ben-Meir notes, the Palestinians must also make concessions. "Without giving much more than what has already been given, the PLO should formally renounce its charter. Psychologically, this would have a big impact on the Israelis," he said. The PLO charter, which calls for the destruction of the state of Israel, has already been called "obsolete" by PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Ben-Meir also advocates a change of strategy on the part of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza: "Stop the stone-throwing and overt violence and instead organize massive political demonstrations, day in, day out. The Israelis will not shoot at peaceful demonstrators. This would help considerably because the problem is that Israel is still not convinced that the Palestinians want peace. If this did not work, they could always resume the stone-throwing."

Ben-Meir is convinced, however, that the dynamic of peace is in motion and that it cannot be stopped. "If the Likud (Israel's ruling rightwing party) does not proceed, then a new government will have to come into place. It is only a question of time before a majority in Israel feels that a solution must be found and that ruling the Palestinians is no longer a viable option." (New York — WNL)

Boredom dominates glacier war

A BIZARRE war being fought on the world's highest battlefield is noted more for boredom than bombs.

"Utterly miserable... and so boring, you have no idea," said an Indian soldier describing a three-month tour of duty at the 7,000 metres (21,000 feet) high front line on the Siachen Glacier.

"This is a very silly war, complete rubbish," said a senior officer at the Indian Army's base camp under the nose of the glacier at 3,700 metres (11,000 feet). "But this is the Army. We are told to fight, so we fight."

Even Major-General V.R. Raghavan, the Army commander, jokes that an Indian mountaineer who spends 20 minutes atop a 7,000 metre mountain gets the country's highest award while a soldier who spends three months at this front in the middle of winter is rewarded with a bar of chocolate.

More than 3,000 Indian troops face a similar number of Pakistanis along the Saltoro Mountains that command the Siachen Glacier, at 7,6 km (48 miles) the second longest glacier in the world outside the Polar regions.

The obscure war over the glacier, in the northeastern part of the disputed Kashmir region, began in 1984 when Indian troops moved in.

Raghavan told foreign reporters during a recent trip to Siachen that territory claimed by India had started turning up in atlases as lying within Pakistan.

The commander argued that Indian claims to the Siachen region stemmed from agreements that established a line of control in Kashmir after two wars. Two-thirds of Kashmir is administered by

India, and the rest by Pakistan.

The two countries began talks in June on the disengagement of their forces from the glacier. The talks centred on a plan to withdraw troops to positions held earlier without affecting claims to the Siachen territory, which was left undemarcated in a UN sponsored 1949 ceasefire agreement covering most of Kashmir.

"The sooner they get it done the better," said one soldier of two rounds of talks that have so far failed to determine what those positions were. "Get us out before winter."

His chances appear slim with winter approaching rapidly.

"As you can see everybody is quite dug in for another winter," Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto told reporters during a trip to Siachen last month shortly after the second round of abortive talks.

So it will be back to temperature down to minus 50 degrees Centigrade (minus 58 Fahrenheit) at the highest Indian posts, where soldiers use blowtorches and stoves to keep their guns from freezing up during the day and sleep with them at night.

Back to routine shelling so they are not buried alive by snowfalls, maintaining rope lines so patrols can move around and digging more caves under six metres (20 feet) office as protection against shells.

Back to retrieving supplies, including oxygen, dropped by parachute, trying to fight off frostbite.

"Housework," one officer called it, to fight off the excruciating boredom. "Everything in this war happens very slowly. It is quite unbelievably boring most of the time."

Remote though it is, the Siachen Glacier is

strategically important with its valley leading into Indian Kashmir.

Occasionally, one side will mount an operation to occupy a lump of rock and ice that would give it an advantage over the other and fighting flares up.

The last time was in April and May, when the Indians tried to occupy a point they thought a Pakistani objective.

Commanders met after heavy fighting and agreed to leave it empty.

That was only the second time commanders had met, Indian officers said. The first was in 1987, when Pakistani bodies were handed back after a bloody battle for one of the three passes into the Siachen Glacier's valley.

Mostly, the war consists of artillery exchanges with the Indians using some of the Bofors guns the government bought from Sweden for \$1.3 billion, a deal which involved Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's administration in repeated charges of corruption.

Raghavan said all the initiative lay with his troops, who looked down on Pakistani positions and could correctly aim, while Pakistani artillery fired blind over sharp, high ridges.

"They are punishable by us whenever necessary," he said.

Other officers said that, like everything else about the war, it wasn't as easy as that.

"The thin air makes a difference to trajectory and distance, so does the temperature. And (weather) conditions are never the same twice, so the data you gained yesterday is no use today," said one.

He wouldn't admit Indian artillery rarely hit anything, but said: "It is very, very difficult."

ARAB TIMES, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1989

Art Buchwald

Fat cat student

COLLEGE tuitions are going through the roof. Latest reports indicate it now costs \$21,000 to send your loved one for a year to any respectable institution in the United States.

It is not the end of high tuition raises but rather the beginning.

Most educational experts predict that by 1995 the tariff for an average 150-pound male student or a 110-pound female student will be \$1 million a year, not counting admission to basketball games. Who will be the lucky students? Young people whose parents have made a killing in Time-Life-Warner Brothers stock, or who own six or seven skyscrapers in a rezoned Central Park.

I asked Meyer Daniloff, a Regis Professor of Matriculation at Ivy League Normal, why tuitions were rising so fast. He replied: "All the universities in America are looking for a better class of student, and the only way we can get it is to raise the price of admission. We're tired of the grungy, unkempt, badly mannered student of the past, and the only way to get rid of them is to raise the rates. As the midget who sat on J.P. Morgan's lap once said 'If you have to ask what college costs, then you can't afford it'.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Fresh move to ease jobless problem

Jordan seeks new outlets

AMMAN, Sept 10, (Reuters): Jordan—an exporter of college graduates but an importer of truck drivers, bakers and domestic servants—is tackling its employment problem at both ends of the scale under the pressure of economic difficulties.

Labour Minister Jamal Al Bdour has sent a number of Arab countries draft accords intended to ease the movement of Jordanians seeking work abroad.

"This draft proposal is one of our new efforts to ease the problem of unemployment," he told Reuters yesterday.

"Of course, there are other complementary moves on the local scene to replace some of the foreign workers with Jordanians after we give them vocational training to hold such jobs."

Unemployment is a structural problem in Jordan, a country of three million people. Doctors, engineers and other profes-

sionals seek in vain for local jobs already filled but there is a shortage of people wanted for menial tasks.

In 1988, 32,000 of the 50,000 job-seekers registered by the Labour Ministry and the Civil Service Commission held university or community college degrees, Bdour said.

Hundreds of thousands of Jordanians were drawn to Gulf in the oil boom of the 1970s. More than 328,000 now work in Gulf Co-operation Council countries—equal to more than half the number of Jordanians employed in Jordan.

On the other hand, around 120,000 foreigners work in Jordan, most of them in low-paid menial jobs. The majority are from Egypt, but others come from Syria, India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

They arrived in large numbers when aid from the Arab oil states gave Jordan a decade of prosperity that is now ended.

Since a run on foreign reserves forced a

40 per cent devaluation of the dinar against the dollar, Jordanian wages are not nearly so attractive to foreign workers and the government is looking for ways to save on foreign exchange.

The authorities have stopped renewing work permits for foreigners who can be replaced with local labour and more than doubled its charges for the permits of those allowed to stay.

Bdour said 2,511 foreigners driving lorries between Iran and the port of Aqaba could be replaced by Jordanians, as could 13,000 foreign domestic servants.

Bakers, needlecraft industries and the care of the elderly were all fields in which training of local labour could reduce the need for foreigners, he said.

These efforts are accompanied by a more realistic appraisal of Jordan's unemployment problem. Government figures have long been far out of line with those of

private economists who say at least 17 per cent of Jordanians are out of work.

Bdour said registered job-seekers numbered 55,000 in the first half of 1989, compared with 50,000 last year. In a local work force of 570,000 that would represent an unemployment figure of 9.3 per cent, substantially higher than the Labour Ministry has acknowledged in the past.

Bdour's proposals for boosting Jordanians' job opportunities in other Arab states do not apply to its partners in the Arab Co-operation Council—Egypt, North Yemen and Iraq—because similar conditions have already been settled.

The minister said he had already received a positive response to the draft accord from Qatar, which is linked in the Gulf Co-operation Council with Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.



Picture above shows from left to right, Vijay Mittal, Financial Consultant Ltd. president Karmesh Gandhi, Pasupati Acrylon Ltd. managing director Mukesh Jain and Hindustan Breweries and Bottling Ltd. chairman and managing director Vijay Jain.

Indian firm offers shares

PASUPATI Acrylon Ltd., (Pal), an Indian company of the Jain Group, is offering Non-Resident Indians 2.28 million equity shares of Rs10 each for cash at par, aggregating to Rs22.8 million, for the company's Rs1.00 million project to manufacture 12,000 tonnes per annum of acrylic fibre at Thakurdwara in Uttar Pradesh.

Addressing a press conference in Kuwait recently held at Meridian Hotel, Mukesh Jain, managing director of the com-

pany, said this part of a larger offer aggregating to Rs108 million is being made by issue of a prospectus wherein preferential allotments of Rs5 million each are proposed to be made to the Unit Trust of India and Canbank Mutual Fund, besides employees of the company.

"The investment by NRIs will be with full repatriation facilities," he said. The plant is being set up in collaboration with SNIA BPD of the Fiat Group of

Italy. SNIA, apart from providing the latest technology, is also supplying major equipment and machineries as also participating in equity capital to the tune of \$500,000.

Pal is promoted by the Jain Group under the stewardship of Jain, a technocrat. The group is already well established in the field of steel tubes, paper and aluminium products, yarn, textiles, breweries and export-import trade.

Kuwait trading volume surges

KUWAIT Stock Exchange Index recorded 974 points at the close of trading on Wednesday, Aug 30, showing an increase of 12 points from the previous month. Trading of shares in August was characterized by an increase in the prices, quantity of shares traded and its value. Over 97.86 million shares were traded during August and increase of 156 per cent from the previous month.

The value of these shares was KD30.95 million also recording an increasing of 119 per cent over the previous month. 1,869 deals were reported during the last month, an increase by 88.3 per cent over the month of July.

The trading including shares of 35 companies, of which prices of shares of 24 companies increased, while price of 10 others dropped and prices of shares of one company remained constant.

The average daily trading during the same month was 4.66 million shares valued at KD1.47 million. An average of 89 deals were held daily.

The banking sector topped the list of trading concerning the number of shares, its value and also number of deals made. Over 45.66 million shares of banks were traded representing 46.6 per cent of all shares traded in August.

The value of banks shares traded was over KD25.82 million, representing 33.4 per cent of the value of all shares traded during the month. Banks were followed by the non-Kuwaiti companies which traded about 27 million shares representing 27.75 per cent of all shares, valued at KD872,000.

Investment companies sector came in third place and traded 13.7 million of its shares.

Gulf Bank weekly market review

KD rate eases against dollar

BASED on last week's opening middle market FX rates, the KD exchange rate was lower against the dollar ending the week at 300.95 fils compared with its week before last closing of 298.75 fils. The KD was higher against the pound sterling, ending the week at 463.96 fils compared with its week before last closing of 466.75 fils.

The KD was higher against the Jordanian Dinar ending the week at 436.15 fils compared with its week before last closing of 415.51 fils. The KD was slightly easier against most other GCC currencies compared to the KD before last closing.

As to the KD money market, short-term interest rates traded easier over the week. One-month interbank rates traded over the week within 8.43 per cent - 8.56 per cent range compared with 8.50 per cent - 8.56 per cent range the week before last. While 3-month interbank rates traded within 8.50 per cent - 8.62 per cent range compared with 8.50 per cent - 8.68 per cent range the week before last. Rates for longer periods traded also easier within a relatively similarly narrow range of 8.56 per cent - 8.62 per cent for 6 and 12 months respectively.

World stock markets

Wall Street stock prices moved lower for most part of the week. The US stock prices were further depressed by Morgan Stanley & Co (a major Wall Street brokerage house) plans of liquidating which triggered sell programs by others. In its latest quarterly report, Prospective publication Morgan Stanley and Co recommended that institutional clients liquidate 10 per cent of their equity holdings. The Dow Jones Industrial Average opened the week at 2752 points and closed at 2710, recording a loss of 4.09 points over the previous week's closing of 2737.9.

Share prices on the London Stock Exchange last week also traded mixed although it moved lower in the mid part of the week as shares tracked Wall Street stocks due to heavy programme selling. However, share prices moved higher later in the week. The FTSE-100 opened the week at 2419.2 points and closed at 2423.9 recording a gain of 36 points over the previous week's close of 2387.9.

Pound sterling

The pound opened the week against the dollar at \$1.5380/90 and closed lower at \$1.5370/80, compared to its week before last closing of \$1.5558/68. The British pound continued to fall against the dollar despite continuous European Central Bank intervention to stop the dollar rise, and Bank of England in its continuous efforts to support the pound has kept the money market tight. Accordingly, money market rates have been rising over the week.

UK consumer credit for the month of July dropped to £3.23 billion from £3.46 billion a month earlier and as compared to £2.88 billion for the month of July 1988. Retail sales for the month of July also dropped by 0.5 per cent from the month of June. With economic data expected to be released over the coming week, we expect the pound to trade within its current range of 1.534-1.538.

Japanese yen

The yen opened the week against the dollar at 146.75/85 yen and closed lower at 147.20/30 yen compared to its week before last closing at 145.90/00 yen. Despite of Bank of Japan's continued intervention in the money market to stop the yen's fall against the dollar, the yen remained weak for all part of the week. Apparently, Bank of Japan is considering other measures (besides intervention) to stop the dollar's rise. The bank does not wish to depend exclusively on current currency market intervention since it needs broader measures. Such measures are seen as raising discount rate from 3.25 per cent to narrow dollar-yen interest rate differentials.

Deutsche mark

The mark opened the week against the dollar at 1.9880/85 marks and closed lower at 1.9950/60 marks compared to its week before last closing of 1.9600/10 marks. The mark's weakness was aided by failure by the W. German Central Bank—Bundesbank—to raise its discount and Lombard rate at its last Thursday council meeting.

W. German gross national product (GNP) for the second quarter of '89 has recorded 4.9 per cent, which is largely due to increasing German exports coupled with increasing industrial investment. On the other hand, W. German living index for the month of August dropped by 0.1 per cent.

French franc

The French franc opened the week against the dollar at 6.7015/45 FFR and closed the week lower at 6.7205/35 FFR, compared to its week before last closing of 6.6745/57 FFR.

Precious metals

Precious metals prices over the most part of the week traded comparatively higher within a relatively active market.

Gold

Gold bullion prices opened the week at 358.75/359.25 \$/oz, and closed higher at 360/360.50 \$/oz, recording a gain of 1.25 \$/oz over the previous week's closing of 359.25/359.50 \$/oz.

Silver

Silver bullion prices opened the week at 5.07/5.09 \$/oz and closed higher at 5.12/5.14 \$/oz, recording a gain of 4 cents over the previous week's closing at 5.08/5.10 \$/oz.

Platinum

Platinum prices opened the week at 471.50/477.50 \$/oz and closed higher at 474.50/475.50 \$/oz, recording a gain of 5.55 \$/oz over the previous week's closing of 469.00/470.50 \$/oz.

Opec could achieve higher crude prices

Growing economic upturn predicted

LONDON, Sept 10, (Kuva): A major British advisory trade organisation has said that over the past couple of decades the world's oil and "money" have become virtually synonymous with the Middle East.

The committee for the Middle East Trade, (Comet) the British Overseas Trade Board's consultancy group for the Middle East, indicated that in 1980 the region was producing over one third of the world's total crude oil output, and its combined oil revenues peaked at nearly \$220 billion.

A 50-page report on the subject of "Oil export and revenue prospects of the main Middle East producers," just published by Comet, also suggested that with the fall in oil prices and the world's demand for oil, revenues declined to less than one third of the peak total.

This trend has directly affected the economies of the oil exporting countries and caused growing concern to their foreign sup-

pliers. However, it stressed that the Middle East still remains one of the world's major market areas, in 1988, an increase of 1.14 million over the same period last year.

Energy and Mines Minister Dr Celestino Armas described the performance of the oil industry as efficient and in line with the country's international commitments. He stressed that improvement in oil prices was also a key element in the growth of the national oil income.

Pricing formula

JAKARTA, Sept 10, (Open): Indonesia will shortly adopt a new pricing formula for its petroleum exports to Japan, according to Mines and Energy Minister Ganesan Karanatassam.

Briefing the press, Ganesan said talks on the new formula were now taking place with representatives of the Japanese importers of Indonesian crude oil and gas.

Oil co-operation

BAGHDAD, Sept 10, (Kuva): The oil and mineral wealth ministers of Arab Co-operation Council states will hold a meeting here next October, Radio Baghdad said today.

During the three-day meeting talks will tackle fields of oil co-operation, exchanging expertise, and implementing joint oil projects; the radio added.

Oil pipeline

ADEN, Sept 10, (Reuter): South Yemen will start pumping oil through a Soviet-built pipeline by the end of the year, a Yemeni official said today.

Mubarak Ba-Mahmoud, head of exploration in the Oil Ministry, said 180 km (110 miles) of the 200-km (130-mile) pipeline from the North-eastern Shabwa region to an export terminal on the Gulf of Aden had been laid.

New contract

LOS ANGELES, Sept 10, (UPI): Occidental Petroleum Corp. said Thursday it signed a revised production sharing contract in the South China Sea that greatly increases its exploration area.

Occidental said its new contract with the China Offshore Oil Co. has added a 1.6-million-acre (640,000-ha) contract area that is contiguous to a 357,000-acre (142,800-ha) contract area where Occidental recently tested its Luofeng 22-1-2 appraisal well at a rate of 11,233 barrels of 34 degree API gravity oil per day.

Japanese in race for alternatives to ozone-destroying CFC

TOKYO, Sept 10, (Reuter): Lured by potentially huge rewards, Japanese companies have thrown themselves into the race to discover alternatives to the CFC chemicals blamed for breaking down the earth's protective ozone layer.

The United States and Europe seem more advanced, but Japanese companies are frantically and earnestly competing to win the race, a spokesman for the Japan Chlorofluorocarbon Association said.

The winners will be able to dominate the market and enjoy huge profits, he said.

Specifically, they are targeting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) used in cleaning agents for electronic and computer equipment and in coolants to draw off the heat which is created in refrigerators and air-conditioners.

CFCs are said by many scientists to destroy the ozone layer which protects the earth from cancer-causing ultraviolet rays.

They are also believed to contribute to the "greenhouse effect"—the warming of the earth's atmosphere which could bring about disastrous climatic changes.



New branch office

The Oman Exchange Co. Ltd. opened its fourth branch this week near the Sheraton Hotel, Firdaus Street.

Iraq offers incentives

BAGHDAD, Sept 10, (Reuter): Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi has announced incentives for the private sector to run the country's petrol stations and gas distribution centres.

He told the Iraqi News Agency the ministry would sell its tanker and gas cylinder trucks to operators of petrol stations and gas centres.

The value of the vehicles, as well as part of the price of oil products and rent for premises, could be paid in installments, he said.

Until two years ago, when Iraq launched economic and administrative reforms, all fuel stations and gas centres were owned and run by the Oil Ministry.

Chalabi said private companies would be allowed to build new fuel stations and the ministry would extend free technical assistance.

Meanwhile, Iraq has started pumping its oil through the newly completed second phase of a twin pipeline across Saudi Arabia, the Saudi newspaper Al Nadwa has reported.

Investment companies sector came in third place and traded 13.7 million of its shares.

In this sense, natural selection will operate and only a limited number of companies will survive in the end."

The Japanese government plans to spend 5.6 billion yen (\$40 million) itself over five years starting from April 1990 to explore chemical alternatives to CFCs.

"Co-operative competition in one form or another will help us save the environment, no matter which company hits the jackpot," a Ministry of International Trade and Industry official said.

E. I. Du Pont de Nemours of the United States is the biggest rival to Japanese CFC makers.

Du Pont plans to spend \$45 million on research and development of CFC alternatives in 1989 alone and an additional \$1 billion for the next 10 years, said a spokesman for Du Pont Japan, Du Pont's wholly owned Japanese unit.

Wall Street prices come under pressure

Manufacturing productivity rises

NEW YORK, Sept 10, (UPI): The Federal Reserve of New York reported that US authorities sold \$11.917 billion on foreign currency markets in May, June and July, the largest intervention on record for a three-month period.

The bulk of the dollar sales took place in May and June, coinciding with a White House statement May 22 expressing concern that the dollar's appreciation could undermine efforts at reducing trade imbalances, the Fed said Wednesday.

During the three-month period, the Fed purchased \$7.237 billion worth of Japanese yen and \$4.679 billion in West German marks.

On Wall Street, the stock market retreated this week as prices came under the pressure of futures-related programme selling. It was the first weekly decline in 10 weeks, breaking a

string of nine consecutive weekly gains.

In economic news, the Labour Department said Wednesday that manufacturing productivity rose at a 2.9 per cent annual rate during the second quarter of 1989 despite this year's economic slowdown.

A departmental survey of US businesses completed in August showed that companies plan to spend \$464 billion on capital investments during the year, after adjusting for inflation.

The department upped its estimate of manufacturing productivity from last month's original estimate of a 2.4 per cent annual rate of increase for the three-month period.

The jump in manufacturing productivity was fuelled largely by a 4.8 per cent annual rate of gain in the manufacture of durable goods — those products designed to last three or more years. Productivity in the non-durable goods sector rose at 0.2 per cent rate.

On Thursday, the Commerce Depart-

ment reported American companies expect to increase their spending on plant and equipment by a strong 7.7 per cent in 1989 despite this year's economic slowdown.

The approval came close to ending the after-effects of the \$2.25 billion bond default by the Washington Public Power Supply System in 1985.

WPPSS started out to build five nuclear powerplants in the Pacific northwest in the late 1970s and early 1980s, selling more than \$8 billion in bonds to finance the effort. But cost overruns, faulty energy projections and other problems led to the end of construction on two plants and the default that sparked the lawsuits.

On Tuesday, Robert Freeman, once head of risk arbitrage at Goldman, Sachs and Co., pleaded guilty to charges of trading illegally on insider information. A plea agreement with the government was announced last month, ending the three-year investigation.

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Freeman admitted to trading stocks and options of Beatrice Co. after getting confirmation of a rumour from Martin Siegel, a former investment banker at Kidder, Peabody and Co. who was working on a leveraged buyout of Beatrice by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and Co.

In a civil complaint, the Securities and Exchange Commission asked for up to \$60 million from Antar, including both penalties for insider trading and disgorgement of illegal profits allegedly made through fraudulent record keeping.

Antar was ousted in 1987 after a bitter battle for control of Crazy Eddie Inc. waged by current management, who charged in a lawsuit that financial statements were inaccurate and that \$65 million in goods were missing from inventory.

Bulgaria reforms its banking system

THE Munich-based Bavarian-Bulgarian merchant bank, in which Bulgaria has a 49 per cent stake, has been doing very well since it was founded in 1987, allocating commercial and investment credits to Bulgarian and West German companies as well as servicing much of the bilateral trade. Joint venture banks are just one product of the ongoing reform of Bulgarian banking.

The main change, though, is the setting up of eight special merchant banks charged with handing out credits for investment purposes. Using economic levers they are expected to provide incentives for commodity producers to modernise their facilities and improve their performance.

Before that, the Bulgarian National Bank had absolute monopoly over credits and money. By combining the functions of a bank of issue and a credit institution it threatened to create inflation. Under the new system the special merchant banks cannot issue money for credit purposes.

The BNB is thus stripped of its direct means of influencing the economy.

Under the new regulations banks will be given the right to hand out credits at negotiated interest rates. Previously, the BNB was authorised to dispose of all free bank assets. The proposal is now discussed to make manufacturers pay interest as part of production costs or out of their pre-tax profits. This will stimulate them to make the most of the credits received. The same will apply to foreign business operations in Bulgaria.

The new specialised merchant banks are joint stock companies with the BNB, other banks, manufacturers and public organisations acting as shareholders.

KD deposits steady in quiet market

KUWAIT, Sept 10, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposits were mainly steady in a quiet market, but some day-to-day funds continued to display a softer tone in response to ample liquidity.

Dealers said business was thin and focused on short dates in a normal trend for the European weekend.

Overnight funds were offered at six per cent and dealt at that level. Tomorrow-next was quoted barely changed at eight, seven per cent with deals reported at seven.

Spot-next eased at 7-3/4, 1/4 per cent from 8-1/2, 7-1/2 on Saturday. One-week also declined to 8-1/4, 7-3/4 per cent from 8-1/2, eight at the start of the day.

Fixed period maturities were all indicated unchanged in a flat yield curve at 8-1/2, 1/4 per cent.

The Central Bank left its dinar exchange rate unchanged at 0.30141/51 to the dollar as normal on Sundays.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposits were steady in a typically dull market, with many offshore operators absent due to the European weekend.

Spot-next was quoted in a range of nine, 8-1/2 per cent and one-week at 8-3/4, 1/4.

REQUIRED URGENTLY
Female helper
with valid
transferable visa
Pis contact
2429944

EEC single currency remains distant dream

Blueprints for economic co-operation approved

ANTIBES, France, Sept 10, (Reuters): Jacques Delors' vision of the old continent of Europe rejuvenated by a single market and a unified economic policy came one step closer to reality this weekend, but plans for a single currency remain a distant dream.

The president of the European Commission and author of a key report of economic and monetary union saw his closest ally, France, rapped over the knuckles for trying to move too far too fast.

But most officials agreed with his relatively upbeat assessment of a two-day meeting of European Economic Community finance ministers and central bank governors at a secluded seafront hotel in Antibes.

"We have avoided stagnation," Delors told journalists late Saturday. "The old continent is continuing to make progress."

Deloitte Finance Minister Onno Ruhing said: "We are going in the right direction but as always things will take longer than envisaged."

The meeting approved blueprints for co-operation on economic and monetary policy, to be ratified in November. These will establish the basis for the stage one of the controversial three-stage Delors plan, due to begin next July.

Under the plan, barriers to EEC trade would come down,



Nigel Lawson

economic surveillance procedures would be set in place, remaining currency controls will be dismantled and all EEC currencies, including the British pound, are due to be brought into the semi-fixed European Monetary System of currencies.

First steps will also be made toward a European central bank.

Some officials cited growing reservations over a single community money.

Britain, whose Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcher has clashed acrimoniously with French President Francois Mitterrand on the issue, remains the most opposed to it.

But there are signs that West Germany is growing increasingly hesitant over the idea. Nations such as the Netherlands, Denmark and Luxembourg also harbour reservations.

A fourth group, the poorer nations of southern Europe such as Portugal and Greece, are also

Move to vend IMF embargo

Vietnam seeks \$300m bank loan

HANOI, Sept 10, (Reuters): Vietnam is trying to escape from its economic dead-end street by gaining International Monetary Fund (IMF) support for a \$300-million commercial bank loan that would help unlock new IMF money, a senior Vietnamese banker said.

Nguyen Cong Hai, deputy director of the foreign department of the State Bank of Vietnam, said the aim was to generate funds to implement a one-year stabilisation plan and to restore normal relations with the fund.

The plan, to be put before IMF and World Bank meetings in the next few weeks, reflects hope in Hanoi that Western countries will ease their isolation of Vietnam after it withdraws its troops from Cambodia later this month.

However, diplomats and foreign bankers here said there was considerable doubt that the United States, which wields immense influence at the IMF and World Bank, would soften its line against its old communist enemy to allow the package.

Hai said in an interview Vietnam had proposed that the French bank Banque Francaise pour Commerce Externe, which has an office in Ho Chi Minh City in the south, be asked to lead a consortium of banks to raise \$300 in loans.

Of this about \$130 million would be used to pay off IMF arrears dating from the end of 1988. Because of those arrears the fund barred Vietnam access to its facilities.

The remaining \$170 million would be used to help put into practice a 12-month plan, worked out with IMF guidance, to fight inflation, lower the yawning budget deficit and build up the tiny hard currency

reserves.

Clearing the IMF arrears would make Vietnam, whose 65 million people live in one of the world's poorest economies, once again eligible for several IMF facilities.

"We would be eligible for structural adjustment and enhanced structural adjustment facilities which, according to our IMF quota, could mean \$350 to 400 million," Hai said.

Vietnam depends on its communist allies for most of its foreign trade and investment but needs the flexibility of hard currency and Western management skills as it reshapes the economy and tries to compete with more nimble Asian states.

Members of a World Bank delegation that conducted an economic survey of Vietnam in the last three weeks said they were extremely impressed by the effect in the last year.

Cuts in subsidies and monetary restrictions and a bold decision to create a realistic rate for the dong currency have brought inflation down from dizzying three-figure heights to about four per cent per month, according to official figures.

The black market mark-up on the dong has been virtually abolished.

Bankers like Hai, who appear to have the full backing of the political-conservative Politburo, are determined to push ahead with their tightening in the next year, whether or not the IMF supports their plan for clearing arrears and generating new capital.

The aim is to cut inflation to one per cent by next September. State expenditure would be further reduced as the level of state sector borrowing is

Thailand to boost trade ties with Cairo

CAIRO, Sept 10, (Reuters):

Thailand's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Prapas Limphabandhu, will begin a two-day visit to Egypt tomorrow to discuss ways of boosting trade between the two countries, diplomats said.

A spokesman for the Thai embassy in Cairo said Prapas planned to meet Egyptian officials and businessmen as part of Bangkok's efforts to expand relations with the Middle East and Africa. He visits Nairobi from Wednesday.

Two-way trade between Thailand and Egypt was valued at \$42 million in 1988, up from \$24 million in 1987, the spokesman said. Thailand imported Egyptian cotton and petroleum products and sold canned food, tobacco and textiles.

Thailand is interested in the Middle East problem," the spokesman said. "Egypt is a key player in the region in the Non-Aligned Movement and in African affairs."

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However, five insurer real estate offices were established there by the end of March 1989, out of a total of 17 in foreign cities worldwide. A year earlier the world-wide total was 11, a finance ministry official said.

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Nippon Life Insurance Co. — the second largest Japanese firm with \$15.39 trillion (\$106 billion) in assets — established Sumitomo Life Realty (UK) in London in July 1988. The company established a similar subsidiary in Sydney in May 1989.

Other major Japanese life insurers are also preparing to set up real estate investment operations in London, industry sources said.

According to government guidelines, companies may put no more than 20 per cent of their total assets into real estate.

Assets held by Japan's 25 life insurance companies totalled 101.83 trillion yen (\$702.2 billion) at end-June, up from \$8.46 trillion yen (\$576 billion) a year earlier, and over 100 trillion yen for the first time.

Real estate investment currently covers less than 10 per cent of total investments, some industry sources said.

They said real estate was seen partly as an inflation hedge by the companies. Others stressed it was sought for long-term income.

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White House nudges Fed on lowering rates

WASHINGTON, Sept 10, (AP): White House economic adviser Michael Boskin yesterday reinforced the Bush administration's call on the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates.

"My own personal view is if there are signs of softness in the economy from where we are now, that further easing would probably be appropriate," said Boskin, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors.

"We see the economy is continuing to grow, albeit at a slower rate than the fairly rapid pace of 1987 and 1988," he said.

His remarks at a US chamber of commerce breakfast came three weeks after White House Budget Director Richard Darman complained that the central bank was keeping interest rates too high and would have to bear the blame if the country tipped into a recession after nearly seven years of economic expansion.

President George Bush later endorsed Darman's statement, calling it "very balanced."

Boskin generally has avoided publicly criticising the Federal Reserve, which is considered an independent branch of government, and his statement was muted compared to Darman's remarks.

"Picking fights between the administration and the Fed is the best game in town and I don't really intend to get involved. I think that's counterproductive," Boskin said.

"I'm sure the Fed is monitoring the data as closely as we are and I'm certain they will adopt a sensible monetary policy because they themselves have said that their goal is to try to achieve the maximum sustainable economic growth consistent with controlling inflation," he said.

Beginning in March 1988, the central bank boosted short-term interest rates by 3 percentage points. Its goal was a so-called "soft landing" — slower but continued economic growth that would prevent an acceleration of inflation.

Then, when signs of sluggishness began to emerge, the Fed in June began loosening credit, allowing rates to fall by about three-quarters of a percentage point.

However, recent statistics indicate the US economy, although slower than last year, was doing better than most economists thought. The Fed has not nudged interest rates down further since mid-July, causing some impatience within the administration, which is depending on continued growth to generate tax revenue and help it reduce the budget deficit without a tax increase.

Much as neighbouring Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore have done, Shanghai is moving upscale, both to avoid tough competition at home and to take advantage of its lower labour costs in competing for export markets.

The activity contrasts with much of China, which is seeing nationwide moves to crack down on private entrepreneurs and capitalist ideas in the wake of the bloody suppression of pro-democracy protesters in Beijing.

Some attribute the climate in Shanghai to the protection of former Shanghai leader Jiang Zemin, who in June replaced the ousted Zhao Ziyang as head of China's Communist Party.

In contrast with Beijing, which is guarded by armed soldiers, Shanghai seems almost apolitical. The university students who led the pro-democracy demonstrations here in June face mandatory political education, but Shanghai's workers have been spared that fate.

"A worker's first responsibility is to produce," says Yang Xianghai, deputy chief of the City Planning Commission. "Our workers need to improve the quality of their work, their morality and

EVENTS

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Dubai Pharmacy
Song Wajif, Al Jazeer St.
Property of Mohammed
Rida Ali
Tala Pharmacy
Al Hilal St.
Opp. to the Ministry of
Education, Muroob
Neira and Hawalli
Al Kamal Pharmacy
Hawalli, Tunis St.
Property of Al Nafees
Salimiyah and Rummaniyah
Sahara Pharmacy
Salama, Al Mubarak St.
Property of Fahad Al Zabid
Fahsheel and Almadi
Al Badeya Pharmacy
Fahsheel, Al Dabous St.
Mohammed Jasem Building
Khetan
Al Tarfeeq Pharmacy
Khatan, Southern St.
Al Rajan, Commercial
Market
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
Jahra, The New Commercial
Market

CINEMA

Al Andalus
One Man Force
Al Salimiyah
Hall Booked
Al Hamra
Wild Force
Drive-In
Dil Aar Deewar
Fahsheel-open
Ek Guhah Am Sahi
Fahsheel
Arthur 2 on the Rocks
Al Jahra
Red Sonia
Granada
Young Guns
Sahibkhah
Halloween 4
Jaleeb
Banjaraan
Almadi Drive-In
The Annihilators

PRAYERS

Fair	4.10 pm
Zuhr	11.45
Asr	3.16 pm
Maghreb	5.58
Isha	7.17

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm
only. Natural history exhibits
from in and around Kuwait,
including blue whale. Closed
on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12
noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm.
Collection includes rare
Islamic artefacts, Quranic
manuscripts, ceramics, carpets
and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12
noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am
to 12 noon. Collection of
Islamic arts, costumes and
jewellery from the Muslim
world.

Sadu House

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12
noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits
include bedouin handicrafts —
rugs, saddle bags, cushions and
textiles. Closed on Friday.

Photography & oil painting
classes

Photography to be taught by
Ann C. Eid, a professional
photographer with a degree in
fine arts, who has taught at the
University of Maryland.

Oil painting to be taught by
Yasmeen Bhamia, a professional
artist with a degree in fine
arts, who has exhibited her
paintings in many countries.

Classes are to be held in
Daiya. Limited to only 10
students per class. Register
early.

Dates: Photography — Sun-
days, Oct 7 - Nov 25, 10 am to 1
pm; Wednesdays, Oct 4 -
Nov 22, 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Painting: Mondays, Oct 2 -
Nov 20, 10 am to 1 pm.

For further details and
reservations, please call Yas-
meen 2540587.

SOCIAL

One Sadya

OVERSEAS Indian Cultural
Congress (OICC) has
decided to celebrate the 'One
Sadya' — the national festival of
Kerala — with its traditional
feast 'One Sadya', which
includes 21 delicious vegetarian
dishes at New Regal Restau-
rant on Sept 14, 7 pm. For
more details please contact tel:
4314183, 5629747 and
3988569.

British Council

THE British Council
presents "Briefing on Britain"
a special video presentation for
students who are going to
Britain this autumn for higher
education. Will this be your
first experience of studying in
Britain? If so, and if you would
like to participate in complimentary
briefing sessions



Leena expresses her love for her homeland.

A victim of Lebanon's terror

'I am still very optimistic'

LEENA GHANTOUS, a 15-year-old
Lebanese girl came to Kuwait three
months ago, fleeing the fierce battle of Beirut.

She came here to stay temporarily with
the hope that one day she could return to
her home country, but as violence contin-
ued unabated in Beirut, she finally
decided to spend this year in Kuwait and
registered at the French school. She is
still living on the hope that things in

Beirut will return to normal and she will
be able to go back.

However, despite the horrifying war in
Lebanon, Leena said that she was study-
ing and practising her day to day life
affairs in a very normal way. "We
became accustomed to sounds of mort-
ars and shelling and going to the shelters
so frequently," Leena said. "I never

worried or panicked and I am still very
optimistic."

Leena is very attached to her
homeland. "If they put me in the most
safe and secure country in the world, I
won't feel comfortable without the peo-
ple whom I love." She spent the past few
months in Kuwait reading books, learn-
ing to play on the guitar and swimming.
She has started to prepare herself for

school, opening shortly. "I have to com-
plete my university education because we
are living in a decade that obliges each
and every individual to obtain a univer-
sity degree and also get a job! I plan to
study medicine or engineering."

She added that she will not get married
before completing her university educa-
tion, except if she fails in love!

BADESHIK

The Bangladesh Diploma
Engineers Society in Kuwait
(Badeshik) will hold the instal-
lation ceremony of its newly elec-
ted office-bearers on Sept 15 at

6.30 pm at the Bangladeshi
Embassy premises. A cultural
function will also be held on the
occasion. Badeshik members are
requested to contact their local
representative or phone 4320025 for further information.

Colva Nite

COLVA 19: Annual Colva Nite

at New Ballroom of Ramada

Al Salem Hotel. Top Ranks in

attendance. For details contact

Tel: 2413884/2434776/56291-

41/4310913 after 5 pm.

British Council

Defence of the Realm

Saturday, 16 September and

Sunday, 17 September at 6.30

pm. 92 min.

What are they prepared to

cover up in "Defence of the

Realm"? When a respected

journalist dies in mysterious

circumstances after meeting a

government "mole," his fellow

reporter is determined to find

out why. But each lead only

raises more questions! A superb

British thriller.

Oman Celebration

SEPT. 15: Two leading Goan

organisation in Kuwait, The

Weekened Club and Kuwait

Goans, will join hands to host

"Syndicate Live," a musical

extravaganza at the Indian Arts

Auditorium featuring Goa's

music kings, The Syndicate,

Stepping Stones, Top Ranks

and a selection of talented local

singers. Gate passes available

at Raja Stores and the Organ-

isers. Call: 2413348, Julio

5734513 for more information.

Kapilku Night

NOVEMBER 2, 3: The new

GOA presents M. Boyer's

"Chintam Zalim Sopnam"

at the IAC (Funaites). Cast

includes the Charlie Chaplin

of Goa "Jacinto Vaz" along with

Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho,

Betty Naz and others. For tick-

ets contact Canary Video

(Sharqi) or Video Club (near

GPO).

HOTELS

At the Meridian

OUR new Versailles menu is

as fishy as ever: The Versailles

Restaurant celebrates the new

season with an exciting new la

carte menu featuring delicious

new seafood dishes and always

the great value busines.

Enjoy a truly elegant and

dining experience with the fin-

est cuisine and atmosphere.

International music is

provided by Jo Lee, a veritable

one woman band, is guaran-

ted to help to make the dinner

at the Versailles truly a night to

remember.

ACHIEVING new heights

in good taste: Introducing a

new menu at Al Fintas club as

from the 9th of Sept. Super

choice of low calories snacks,

sandwiches and salads with

tasty, good health appeal,

especially when preceded by a

few laps in the adjacent roof top

swimming pool.

AL Fintas (tea lounge):

"stay on top and stay cool with

our milkshake promotion: As

from the 17th to the 28th Sept.

there will be lots of variety of

delicious milk shake flavours,

mango, chocolate, banana, straw-

berry ... a little more refresh-

ing on a scorching summer day

than a month ... watering milk-

shake whipped up Meridian

style why not make it a daily

treat.

At the Kuwait Plaza

DINE the way you fancy at

Al Dallah Coffee Shop which

offers the most enjoyable din-

ers or luncheons at a nominal

price. More than thirty dif-

ferent delicious dishes of all

kind of food starting with

Lebanese mezzeh ending up

with Eastern and Continental

food not to mention delectable

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 The opening and Holy

Quran

9.15 Sabah Al-Khir News

and Variety

9.30 Ifah Ya Simsim: Chil-

dren

cultural

programme

10.00 Magazine D'Actualite

Debbie does it again

Molly is back

HOLLYWOOD, Sept 10. (UPI): Trouper Debbie Reynolds begins a fall road show tour of "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" this month with all the verve of Molly herself.

Reynolds is as unsinkable and uninhibited as ever in the title role, which she first played in the splashy MGM musical 25 years ago. Harve Presnell is back once again as her leading man.

Debbie gave such an outstanding performance in the 1964 film she won an Academy Award nomination for best actress.

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown" is based on the true story of an orphan trying to become a member of Denver society in the Old West. In real life Molly eventually ended up surviving the sinking of the Titanic, but that's another story.

The role was one of the most demanding in Reynolds' career, with one production number after another calling for the diminutive actress to sing and dance.

She does it again in this show, which she says will be her last. It is somewhat appropriate that the hit song of the show is "I Ain't Down Yet," which can be said of star who survived two terrible marriages, public humiliation and heavy debts incurred by her second husband.

Reynolds kept faith with her fans, continued to work and drew cheering fans. At 57, she has the energy of a woman half her age. And she needs it.

Looking fit and happy in her San Fernando Valley home, she



Debbie Reynolds: true story

said, "this is the last time I will ever dance so hard. I'm in good shape, but from now on I'm going to settle for a little soft shoe."

"I'm doing 'Molly Brown' again because I want to go out on top. It's exhausting, and I want to do it as well as when I did the movie. It's important to me to be that good for my last dance musical."

"I psyche myself into the part every night. I've surrounded myself with younger dancers, so where their legs go, my legs go too. With their energy level so high, I have to meet it to stay ahead of them."

"These kids in their 20s help push me to the level that the audience is looking for. Bette Davis once said never be afraid to work with good ones, they

are looking fit and happy in her San Fernando Valley home, she

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I, RAM GULAM MEWALI holder
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KUWAIT city area, preferably
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ladies to share with a family. Tele.
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offer. Cash 4831544 ext 223.

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REQUIRED for an Indian lady

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cricket tourney

THE Bombay Youth Cricket Club is organising a cricket tournament during the first week of Oct. A meeting in this connection will be held on Sept 14 at 8.00 am at the Mobarik Restaurant & Cafe, Arab Real Estate Building, Murgab. Interested teams should attend the meeting.

Rugby tour

AGEN, France, Sept 10, (Reuter): The French Rugby Union Federation (FFR) is to invite a South African team to tour France, on condition half the side is coloured (mixed race) or black, the FFR said today.

Coe leads

BEAVERTON, Ore., Sept 10, (Reuter): Canadian Dawn Coe increased her lead to four strokes after shooting a one-under-par 71 in the second round of the \$300,000 Beaverton Golf Championships yesterday.

Real held to draw

MADRID, Sept 10, (Reuter): Real Madrid, playing at half steam ahead of a midweek European Cup clash, were held to a 0-0 draw in a Spanish First Division soccer match away at newly promoted Castellon last night.

World Cup

NAIROBI, Sept 10, (Reuter): China's Ma Weiguo won the World Cup table tennis title by beating Andree Grubis of Poland 17-21 21-16, 21-19, 14-21, 21-17 in a 97-minute final yesterday. Mikael Appelgren of Sweden won the third place playoff against Belgian Jean Sarte 23-23 21-21.

Minoza wins

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Sept 10, (AP): Franklin Minoza of the Philippines shot a five-under-par 67 today, giving him a course record four-round total of 268 and a 8-shot victory in the Malaysian Masters golf championship.

Kidney blockage

ELKHART LAKE, Wisconsin, Sept 10, (AP): Juliana Fittipaldi, 14-year-old daughter of race car driver Emerson Fittipaldi, was reported resting comfortably yesterday following surgery in Miami for a kidney blockage.

Baracchi Trophy

TRENTO, Italy, Sept 10, (AP): The French team of Laurent Fignon and Thierry Marie, with a strong comeback in the last (28 kilometres) 17 miles, won the Baracchi Trophy against-the-clock cycling race for pairs yesterday.

African Cup

KHARTOUM, Sept 10, (Reuter): Sudan's Al-Mareikh beat Congo's Patrouge Sainte Anne 2-0 (halftime 0-0) yesterday in the first leg of their quarter-final for the African Cup.

Belgian soccer

BRUSSELS, Sept 10, (Reuter): Results of Belgian First Division soccer matches played yesterday.

Racing M	1	Cercle Bruges	2
Lokeren	1	Anderlecht	3
Club Bruges	4	Ghent	1
Lierse	1	Mechelen	1
Beveren	4	Kortrijk	1
FC Liege	0	Standard L	0
Antwerp	2	St Truiden	0

Portuguese soccer

LISBON, Sept 10, (Reuter): Results of Portuguese First Division soccer matches played yesterday.

Braga	1	Setubal	3
Benfica	5	Beira Mar	0
Boavista	5	Uniao M	1
Portimonense	2	Penafiel	0
Tirsense	0	Amadora	0
Feirense	1	Belenenses	0

Dutch soccer

AMSTERDAM, Sept 10, (Reuter): Results of Dutch first-division soccer matches played this weekend:

MVV Maastr	3	FC Den Haag	0
Fortuna S	2	BVBD Bosch	0
FC Twente	2	Sparta	0
PSV Eindhoven	3	Ajax	0
Feyenoord	3	FC Gronin	3
FC Utrecht	2	Willem II	1
Volendam	2	Roda JC	0
RKC Waalwijk	3	NEC Nijmegen	0
Vitesse	4	Haarlem	0

Suntory Open

INZAI, Japan, Sept 10, (AP): American Larry Nelson sank a 15-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden death playoff today and celebrated his 42nd birthday by winning the \$99,000 top prize in the Suntory Open golf tournament.

Americans win

PARIS, Sept 10, (AP): American synchronised swimmers finished off a triple victory yesterday by taking the team event at the sport's fourth World Cup. Tracy Long led the team and picked up her third gold medal of the competition. She previously won the solo and duet routines.

8-stroke win

NASUMACHI, Japan, Sept 10, (AP): Yukimi Tanii shot a 3-under-par 69 and pulled away from Ayako Okamoto and Hiroshi Kobayashi for an 8-stroke victory today in the Japan LPGA Championship.

JOB OFFER

Executive Secretary

A leading petroleum company has a vacancy for an executive secretary with the following qualifications:

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- Good command of word processor
- Shorthand
- Experience min. 5 years
- Transferable residence
- Driving licence 'preferable'

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Prost wins Italian Grand Prix to increase lead

MONZA, Italy, Sept 10, (Reuter): Frenchman Alain Prost established himself as a clear favourite for the World Drivers' Championship today when he took full advantage of the misfortune of his McLaren teammate Ayrton Senna to win the Italian Group Prix motor race.

Senna, the Brazilian world champion, led from the start until eight laps from the end of the 53-lap race when he was forced to retire with what appeared to be a blown engine.

Prost, having started fourth on the grid, had worked his way through to second place. He inherited the lead and

went on to a comfortable victory.

Austrian Gerhard Berger, in a Ferrari, followed him home in second place ahead of Belgian Thierry Boutsen who was third in a Williams.

It was Berger's first finish of the season and offered Ferrari's thousands of fanatical supporters some consola-

tion for the departure of Briton Nigel Mansell who was forced to retire after 42 laps.

Italian Riccardo Patrese finished fourth in the second Williams, Frenchman Jean Alesi in a Tyrrell was fifth and Briton Martin Brundle, driving a Brabham, finished sixth.

Prost's winning time was one hour 19 minutes and 27.55 seconds.

Only 10 cars were still running at the finish of a punishing race which thoroughly tested the durability of all the teams on a circuit designed for high speed and brave driving.

Mansell remains third with 38 and

with only four races to go is now out of serious running for the title.

World Drivers' Championship standings (after 12 rounds): 1. Alain Prost (France) 71 points; 2. Ayrton Senna (Brazil) 51; 3. Nigel Mansell (Britain) 38; 4. Riccardo Patrese (Italy) 26; 5. Thierry Boutsen (Belgium) 24.

Brazil qualify for Cup finals

Fifa turn down Chilean appeal



Rojas lies on the ground after being 'hit' by the flare.

the field and the federation would be fined 20,000 Swiss francs (\$11,800) for failing to take adequate security precautions.

He said that the case of Chilean goalkeeper Roberto Rojas, alleged to have been hit by a missile, would be dealt with by the disciplinary committee as it did not fall within the jurisdiction of the organising committee.

Fifa House, the headquarters of the governing body of world soccer was under siege by Brazilian and Chilean journalists and television crews during the meeting.

The committee comprising Neuberger, Guillermo Canedo (Mexico), Harry Cavan (Northern Ireland), Tan Sri Datuk Hamzah (Malaysia) and Julio Grondona (Argentina) heard evidence from Brazilian and Colombian delegates in separate hearings which totalled nearly three hours.

The committee then deliberated for a further two hours before reaching a decision.

Football federation president Sergio Stoppello led the Chilean delegation and his counterpart Ricardo Teixeira headed for Brazil.

Brazilian officials had accused Chile of faking the injury to goalkeeper Rojas who had angrily denied the accusations.

But the Brazilians had been

confident

photographs would prove them right and they would be awarded the match because of the 'Chileans' walk-off, unprecedented in World Cup qualifying rounds.

Argentine referee Juan Carlos Loustau waited 25 minutes for the visiting team to return before suspending the match.

Rojas fell to the ground when the missile — later described as a flare-type signalling device

usually used by sailors when in trouble at sea — was thrown from the crowd of more than 40,000 in the Maracana stadium.

Witnesses said it landed

several metres away from him.

He had been expected to give his version of the incident to the committee but failed to appear.

Swiss newspapers quoted Stoppello as saying Rojas was

struck by the missile itself as alleged earlier but was injured by splinters from it when it hit the ground near him.

Chile, who had first asked for a replay in a neutral ground, later demanded they be declared the winners as Brazil had failed to guarantee the team's safety.

The two countries' earlier

qualifying match in Santiago

also ended in controversy after Brazil complained messages on the electronic scoreboard were used to incite Chilean fans. Chile

were ordered to play their final home tie in Venezuela.

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also ended in controversy after

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SPORTS

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Tigers, Yankees defeated

NEW YORK, Sept 10, (AP): The American League's two longest current winning streaks came to an end yesterday when both the New York Yankees and Detroit Tigers lost.

The Yankees had their nine-game winning streak stopped in a 7-0 loss to the Oakland Athletics, while the Tigers had their seven-game streak snapped in a 13-3 loss to Chicago.

The Yankees and rookie Clay Parker, 4-5, were matching zeroes with Oakland's Mike Moore before a routine fly ball was lost in the sun by left fielder Mel Hall with two out in the sixth inning to open the floodgates to A's victory.

"Parker was pitching a strong game but we caught a break with that fly ball," said A's manager Tony La Russa, whose club is now 27-7 in day games at the Oakland coliseum and 43-14 overall in the daytime.

White Sox 13, Tigers 3
Detroit right fielder Scott Lussader tied a Major League record by committing three errors in Chicago's seven-run first inning.

Lussader committed two fielding errors and one throwing error, the eighth Major League outfielder to commit three errors in an inning and the first in the American League since 1925.

Royals 3, Twins 1
Bret Saberhagen pitched three-hit ball through eight innings, becoming the American League's second 18-game winner, and Bo Jackson had three RBIs as the Kansas City Royals beat the Minnesota Twins 3-1.

Results

American League		National League	
Chicago	13	Detroit	3
Oakland	7	New York	0
Toronto	7	Cleveland	5
Kansas City	3	Minnesota	1
Baltimore	4	Texas	2
Califonia	7	Atlanta	2
Milwaukee	7	Seattle	2
		National League	
Pittsburgh	2	New York	5
Atlanta	3	Cincinnati	2
Chicago	3	St. Louis	2
Montreal	5	Philadelphia	5
Houston	4	San Francisco	1
San Diego	2	Los Angeles	1

Standings

East Division		West Division	
W	L	W	L
79	64	56	60
78	55	52	52
70	52	49	49
67	77	45	12-1/2
65	77	45	13-1/2
54	90	37	25-1/2

West Division

West Division	
W	L
86	56
82	59
81	61
72	69
70	71
61	80
59	82

Mitta Chandra Reddy, an Indian National Hindu, and holder of Indian Passport No: 514133B has embraced Islam and his name has been changed to Mohammed Mahmoud.

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Quirot scores easy victory

Bile powers past Coe

BARCELONA, (Reuters): World champion Abdi Bile spoiled Sebastian Coe's retirement party yesterday by winning a dramatic world cup 1,500 metres which plunged the Briton into more controversy.

Bile threatened to force Coe off the track as he powered passed off the final bend and the double Olympic champion had to shout out an arm to fend off the surging Somali.

Bile jumped clear to win in three minutes 35.56 seconds with Coe, making his final appearance in a British vest after an illustrious 12-year career, hanging on to take second.

British officials immediately lodged a protest which was ignored down by the track referee and later by the jury of appeal.

But 32-year-old Coe, Olympic gold medallist in 1980 and 1984, was clearly upset that his final appearance in a British vest had been marred.

Defending champions the United States shared the lead with Europe in the men's competition with 96 points.

petition with 96 points. East Germany were third with 11 points back.

Controversy has dogged Coe in recent years, flaring over his selection for the 1984 Olympics and omission from the British team for last year's Seoul Games.

He desperately wanted to celebrate his final British appearance with a victory and looked capable of achieving it as he took charge of the 1,500 with 300 metres remaining.

He hit the front and poured on the pace as Bile, running for Africa, slid into second.

But the 26-year-old American-based Somali, fastest man in the world over the distance this year, drove for the line rounding the bend and flinched with disaster as he and Coe entered the final straight.

Coe battled to hold off East German Jens-Peter Herold to secure second place in 3:35.79.

Then he watched with a face of fury as the giant scoreboard

replayed the incident but shook Bile firmly by the hand and waved to the crowd after receiving his silver medal on the victory rostrum.

"The clash knocked me out of my stride and was enough to cause problems," Coe said.

But Bile insisted: "I don't feel cut him off. He just grabbed my back. I don't think I did anything."

East German Cornelia Oschkenat retained her 100 metres hurdles title by powering into a headwind to record the fastest time in the world this year of 12.60 seconds.

World and Olympic champion Natalya Lisovskaya of the Soviet Union finished a surprising fourth in the women's shot while Cuban Silvia Costa won the women's high jump for the Americas but failed with three attempts at a world record of 2.10 metres.

Costa cleared the bar to win the women's high jump. (Reuters wirephoto)



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Costa cleared the bar to win the women's high jump. (Reuters wirephoto)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Virginia surprise
No. 12 Penn State

NEW YORK, Sept 10, (AP): Penn State had its first losing season in 50 years in 1988. The 1989 season didn't start any better.

Shawn Moore threw two first-half touchdown passes to Herman Moore as Virginia upset the 12th-ranked Nittany Lions 14-6 yesterday. Penn State, which managed only two second-half field goals by Ray Tarasi, lost for the sixth time in seven games — its worst stretch in Joe Paterno's 23 years as coach.

"I'm disappointed but not discouraged," Paterno said. "I don't think it's a crashing defeat."

No. 5 Miami 5, Wisconsin 3

Craig Erickson shook off a sluggish start to throw four touchdown passes, including one to Wesley Carroll, as the Hurricanes won in their first game under Dennis Erickson.

No. 4 Nebraska 48, Illinois 17

Ken Clark, who gained all his yardage in 20 minutes before leaving with a minor knee injury, rushed for 168 yards and one touchdown as the Cornhuskers, 1-0, overcame five first-half turnovers.

No. 8 Auburn 55, Pacific 0

Alexander Wright caught four long touchdown passes to set a Southeastern Conference yardage record and Auburn piled up 586 yards in total offense.

No. 8 Cincinnati 33, Bay 7

Backup quarterback Chris Melson scored once and directed two other first-half touchdown drives. Oklahoma gained 338 yards, all rushing and held Baylor to 206 yards.

No. 9 Colorado 45, Colorado 20

Eric Biemont ran for 156 yards and three touchdowns for Colorado, which trailed by 17-14 midway through the second quarter but scored on four consecutive possessions for a 38-20 lead.

No. 10 Clemson 34, No. 16 Florida 23

Terry Allen scored three touchdowns in the first half, including a 73-yard scoring run for Clemson.

No. 14 Syracuse 43, Temple 3

Bill Schart completed 14 of 20 passes for 154 yards as the Orangemen won their fourth straight over the Owls.

No. 15 Mississippi 26, No. 18 Mississippi 23

Joel Logan, who missed extra point to tie it, kicked a 34-yard field goal with four seconds left.

Results

No. 1 Notre Dame 1-0 did not play; next: Sept 16 at No. 2 Michigan. 2. Michigan (0-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 1 Notre Dame. 3. Miami, Florida (1-0) beat Wisconsin 51-3; next: Sept 16 at Michigan State. 4. Nebraska (1-0) beat Northern Illinois 48-17; next: Sept 17 vs. No. 1 Utah. 5. Auburn (0-0) beat U. of Pacific 55-0; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 18 Southern Methodist. 6. Florida (1-0) beat Temple 52-0; next: Sept 16 at San Diego State. 7. Arkansas (0-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 vs. Tulsa. 8. Oklahoma (0-0) beat Baylor 33-17; next: Sept 16 at No. 20 Arizona. 9. Colorado (2-0) beat Colorado State 45-20; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 11 Illinois. 10. Clemson (1-0) beat No. 16 Florida State 34-23; next: Sept 16 at Virginia Tech. 11. Illinois (1-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 at No. 14 Colorado. 12. Penn State (0-0) lost to Virginia 14-6; next: Sept 16 vs. Temple. 13. Southern Cal (0-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 vs. Utah. 14. Syracuse (1-0) beat Temple 43-3; next: Sept 17 vs. Army. 15. Florida (1-0) lost to Temple 33-23; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 17 Florida State. 16. Arizona (0-0) lost to No. 16 Florida State 33-23; next: Sept 16 vs. Southern California. 17. West Virginia (2-0) beat Maryland 14-10; next: Sept 16 vs. South Carolina. 18. Southern Mississippi (1-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 vs. Memphis State. 20. Arizona (1-0) lost to Texas Tech 44-14; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 8 Oklahoma. 21. Louisiana State (0-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 16 Florida State. 22. Houston (1-0) did not play; next: Sept 16 at Arizona State. 23. Pittsburgh (2-0) beat Boston College 29-20; next: Sept 16 vs. No. 14 Syracuse. 24. Brigham Young (1-0) lost to Washington State 46-41 (Thursday); next: Sept 16 vs. Navy. 25. North Carolina State (2-0) beat Georgia Tech 38-28; next: Sept 16 at Wake Forest.

Bordeaux increase gap at top

PARIS, Sept 10, (Reuters): Two goals from West German striker Klaus Allofs gave Bordeaux a 2-0 away win at Toulon yesterday to extend their lead in the French Soccer League to two points.

Allofs, signed from last season's double winners Marseille this summer, struck in the 41st and 48th minutes to give the leaders a brilliant victory over fourth-placed Toulon who had not conceded a single goal at home previously this season.

Bordeaux moved on to 15 points, two more than Paris Saint-Germain and three more than Marseille.

Marseille's away match with Monaco was postponed until November because the club from the principality face an away trip for a Cup-Winners' Cup game with Belenenses of Portugal on Tuesday.

Paris Saint-Germain surprisingly dropped a point in a 2-2 draw at the Parc des Princes in a Derby game with Racing Paris but, in the end, were thankful to avoid defeat.

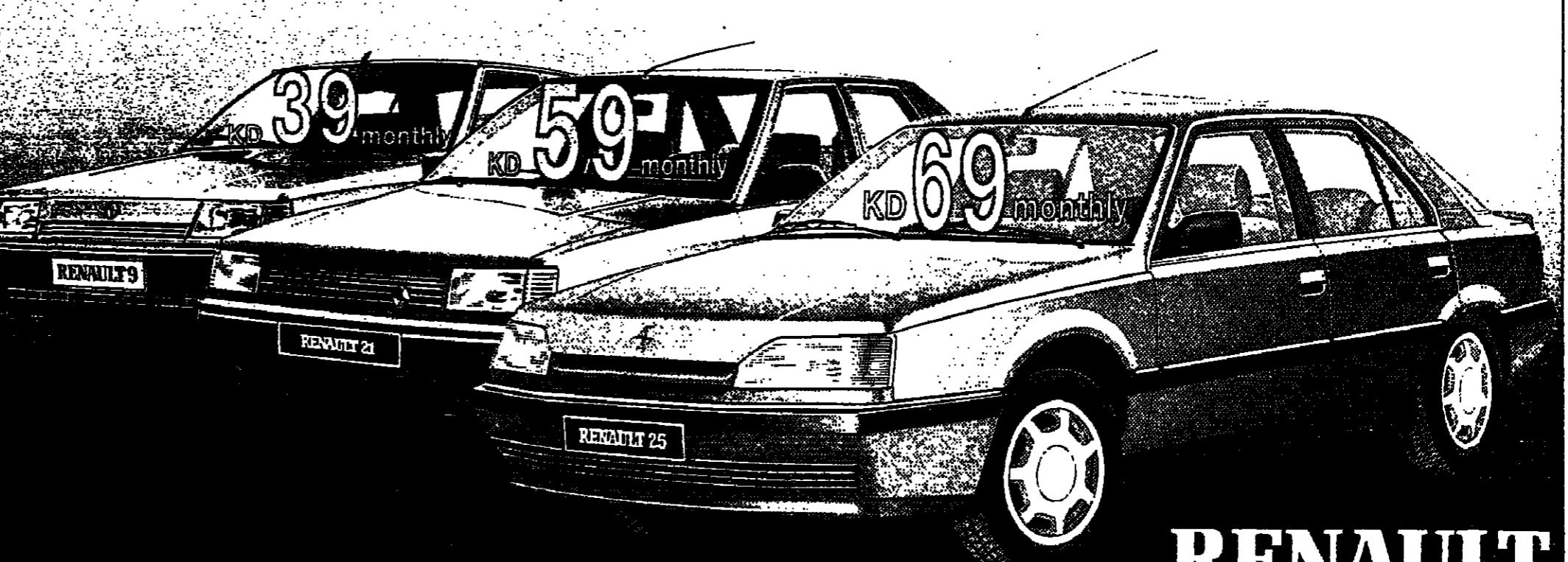
They trailed 2-0 after just 17 minutes when the young Racing team scored through Jean-Louis Lima and Thierry Fournier. They salvaged a point only when Argentine forward Gabriel Calderon converted his second penalty of the match three minutes from time.

The spot kick, awarded when defender Yvon le Roux fell in the box, appeared harsh.

Results

St. Etienne	3	Lyon	0
Brest	0	Nice	0
Metz	2	P.S.	1
Racing Paris	2	Auxerre	1
Lille	2	Nantes	0
Caen	1	Toulouse	0
Montpellier	0	Strasbourg	0
Sedan	0	Bordeaux	2
Toulon	0	Monaco	0

Monaco v Marseille postponed.

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Graf fights back to defeat Navratilova

Lendl to face Becker in final

NEW YORK, Sept 10. (Reuters): Top-seed Ivan Lendl turned back Andre Agassi 7-66-13-66-1 yesterday to set up US Open showdown with second-ranked Wimbledon champion Boris Becker while Steffi Graf reaffirmed her status as world number one by overtaking Martina Navratilova 3-6 7-5 6-1 to repeat as women's tennis champion.

Lendl, this year's Australian Open winner, was slow off the starting blocks but picked up his pace to reach a record-equalling eighth consecutive US Open final.

The three-time champion came racing back from 2-5 down in the first set to eliminate the sixth-seeded American and tie Bill Tilden's record of eight successive appearances in the US national final from 1918-1925.

Becker shook off a sluggish start of his own before beating 14th-seeded American Aaron Krickstein 6-4 6-3 6-4 in the opening match of the US Open programme played in sweltering heat.

Lendl is 7-6 in career meetings with Becker, but the West German has won the last three — a pair of Wimbledon semifinals and last year's Masters final.

The top seed was unconcerned by his recent problems with Becker, especially since today's showdown was to take place on Lendl's favourite hardcourt arena.

"I'm trying to win the Open tomorrow. The past doesn't mean anything. Everybody starts equal," Lendl said.

Agassi, who lost to Lendl at the same stage in 1988, represented the last chance this year to end a five-year US drought here. John McEnroe in 1984 was the last American to win the US Open.

Becker, who reached his first Grand Slam final other than Wimbledon, ended an even lon-



Steffi Graf holds up the trophy after winning the title. (Reuters wirephoto)

ger drought for his country with his victory. The world number two will be the first German to play in the men's final of the US Championships since 1937 when Baron Gottfried von Cramm lost to American Don Budge in five sets.

Agassi, who took the first set from Lendl last year, appeared on his way to winning the open-

ing set in the rematch with the top seed repeatedly overhit, long and wide.

Lendl broke back for 5-4 to put the set back on serve and held for 6-6 to force a tiebreak.

The top seed turned up the heat with three aces to take the tiebreak 7-4 and was on his way. Lendl, who is tough to beat

under normal circumstances, is 55-1 in US open matches where he has won the opening set.

Becker, usually a big serve and volleyer, opted to play a baseline groundstroke game with Krickstein.

The booming serve and punishing volleys Becker used to oust Frenchman Yannick Noah in the quarterfinals were nowhere in sight through the first two sets.

"It's not so fast so you can't all the time serve and volley," Becker said of the stadium's hardcourt surface. "You have to find a balance."

Becker found the balance in the third set when he broke out the big serve that has carried him to victory at Wimbledon.

Krickstein, playing in his first Grand Slam semifinal, let far too many break opportunities slip away. And each time he did break Becker, the West German broke right back in the next game to recapture momentum.

Meanwhile, Graf, hobbled by cramps in the final games of her three-set triumph over teenage rival Gabriela Sabatini on Friday, showed no ill effects as she surged to victory after falling a set down against a rejuvenated Navratilova.

Navratilova, who flashed her lightning serve-and-volley form of old to win the opening set, failed to avenge three-set defeats to Graf in the last two Wimbledon finals, which deprived her of capturing a record ninth crown.

As in those disappointing results, Navratilova, 32, won the first set before fading under the weight of Graf's ferocious groundstrokes that wore the Czechoslovak-born American down by the end of the one-hour, 51 minute match.

Navratilova had everything going her way at the start, serving and volleying perfectly. She looked ready to end a two-year

Grand Slam famine in which she failed to add to her collection of 17 titles after beating Graf for her fourth Open crown in 1987.

A service break at love in the eighth game gave the opening set to Navratilova, who fought off three break points in the third game and another in the seventh before forcing Graf into three quick mistakes to take the lead.

Navratilova, flawless with her sharply angled volleys, threatened to break in the first game of the second set and after holding serve at love broke Graf to lead 2-1 as she charged forward at every chance.

Graf glowed with determination as possible defeat drew near and took to the net herself with fiery aggression.

Two volleys made it 0-30 in the eighth game and Navratilova, showing the first signs of weakness, double-faulted to give Graf triple break point.

The break evened the set at 4-4 and set the stage for the turning point.

An overhand smash from deuce in the next game gave Navratilova a break point and put her five points away from winning.

But Graf averted disaster by streaking past the sideline to retrieve a cross-court service return that looked a sure winner. Instead, Graf struck a backhand cross-court winner of her own and held from there.

Graf levelled the match three games later by blasting sizzling passing shots past a broken Navratilova, who never recovered.

A Navratilova double fault gave Graf a 3-1 lead in the final set and the result was then never in doubt as Graf sailed through her eighth Grand Slam title.

The triumph continued Graf's reign as the unquestioned queen of women's tennis.



Graf shouts in victory. (Reuters wirephoto)



Navratilova closes her eyes after losing her match. (Reuters wirephoto)

Becker raises his arms in victory. (Reuters wirephoto)



Lendl celebrates his victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

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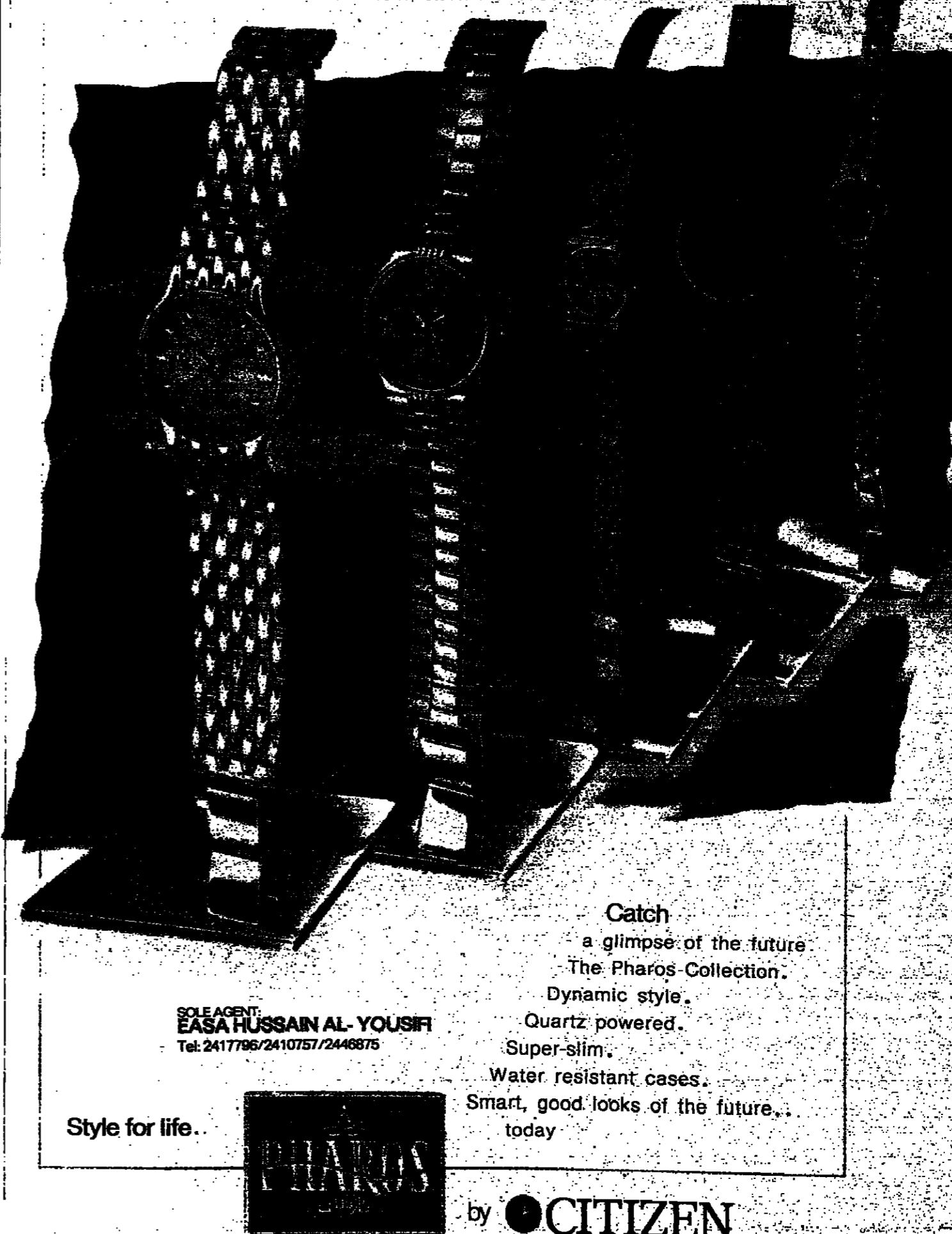
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